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Chapter 27

Volume 5

藤田和子プロフィール

1977年『別冊少女コミック』8月号増刊の『王子さまとデート』でデビュー。『真コール！』で第37回小学館漫画賞を受賞。代表作に『シルバー』『ライジング！』『風に訊け』など。現在、『女性セブン』『Judy』で活躍中。

3月18日生まれ。A型。新潟県出身。

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兒玉宏久
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藤田和子のコミックス

- 小学館文庫
  - ライジング！（原作／氷室冴子）……全7巻
- フラワーコミックス
  - 赤い月……全1巻
- フラワーコミックス・デラックス
  - 真コール……全4巻
- フラワーコミックス・スペシャル
  - シルバー（原作／ベニー・ジョーダン）……全9巻
  - ゴールド（原作／アン・メイジャー）……5巻
- ジュディーコミックス
  - 彩風のランナー（原作／秋田佐知子）……全4巻

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藤田和子 原作／アン・メイジャー
『二つの旅 二人の女』MIRA BOOKS刊

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ゴールド 5

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FLOWER COMICS SPECIAL

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藤田和子

原作／アン・メイジャー
「一つの顔、二人の女」MIRA BOOKS刊

フラワーコミックス・スペシャル

ゴールド5

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ブロンテ・デブリン

交通事故で顔に傷を負い、形成外科医ウェブスターの手で、自分を捨てた母と同じ顔にされてしまう。現在、スーパーモデルのミスチーフ・ジョーンズとして活動中。

ミスチーフ・ジョーンズ

(ジャンタル・ウェスト)

行方不明だったマーズの妻で、整形されたブロンテと同じ顔を持つ、スーパーモデルとして活躍していたが、突然引退。

4巻までのあらすじ

Gold

ゴールド⑤人物紹介

マーズ・ウェスト

名門ホテル、ザ・ウェストのオーナー代理であり、オーナーの娘シャンタルの夫。

グレイ・リー

ミスチーフのチーフ・マネージャーだったが、彼女が引退後、ミスチーフとして活動するブロンテのマネージャーに。

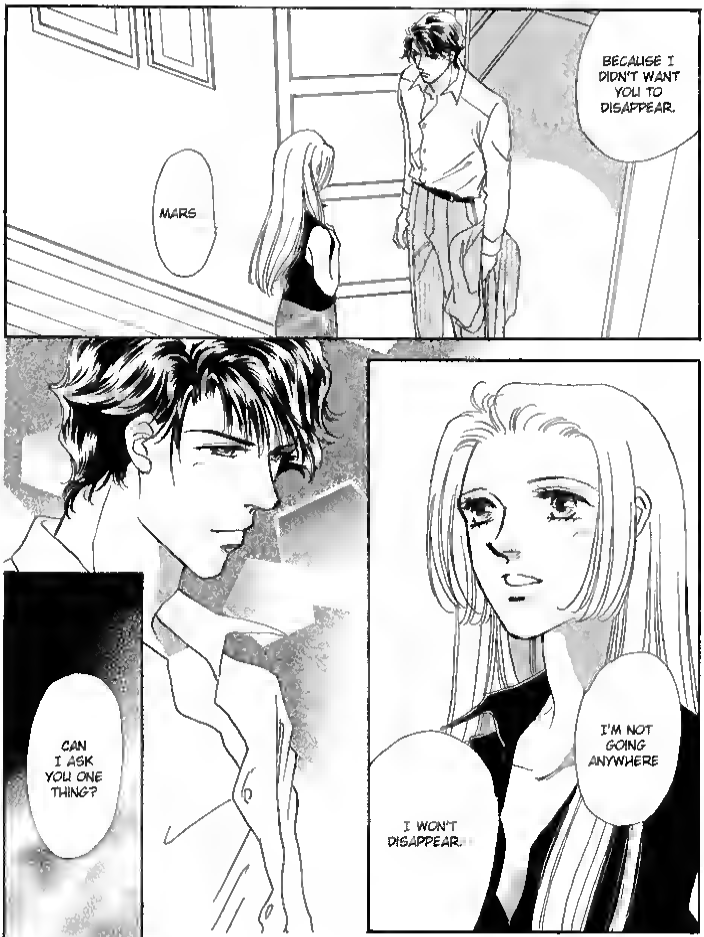
カース・ブラウン

マーズの異母兄弟でハリウッドの映画スター。マーズを憎悪し、その恋人であるブロンテに興味を持つ。

オドラ・ウェスト

ザ・ウェストのオーナーでマーズの育ての親。娘であるミスチーフに、秘密をにぎられ脅されている。

GRAY TOLD ME WHERE YOU WERE
GRAY?
OH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, HE JUST LEFT
I CAME HERE RUNNING
MARS...!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...!


MARS
BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO DISAPPEAR.
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE
I WON'T DISAPPEAR.
CAN I ASK YOU ONE THING?

DID SOME-THING HAPPEN
BETWEEN YOU AND GUS?
I'M NOT SURE. I DON'T REMEMBER.
...THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN..
chuckle.s

I FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO GO CRAZY WITH JEALOUSY
I HARDLY SLEPT A WINK BECAUSE I WAS SO FULL OF DOUBTS
chuckles
AREN'T WE THE FOOLISH BUNCH?
giggles
NO KIDDING

—OH
IT'S SO SIMPLE THE ANSWER WAS THERE IN HIS EMBRACE ALL ALONG
WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE THIS EARLIER?

—HIS WARM, PASSIONATE EMBRACE
TELLS ME ABOUT HIS LOVE FOR ME.

AH...
slide
W-WAIT MARS...
I CAN'T WAIT.
I-I ONLY DECIDED ON THE ROOM TODAY...
I DON'T HAVE ANY BED SHEETS OR ANY CURTAINS FOR THAT MATTER...
Y-YOU CAN'T!
THERE'S NO NEED FOR A BED.
IF THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO WATCH, THEY CAN GO RIGHT AHEAD AND WATCH.

thump

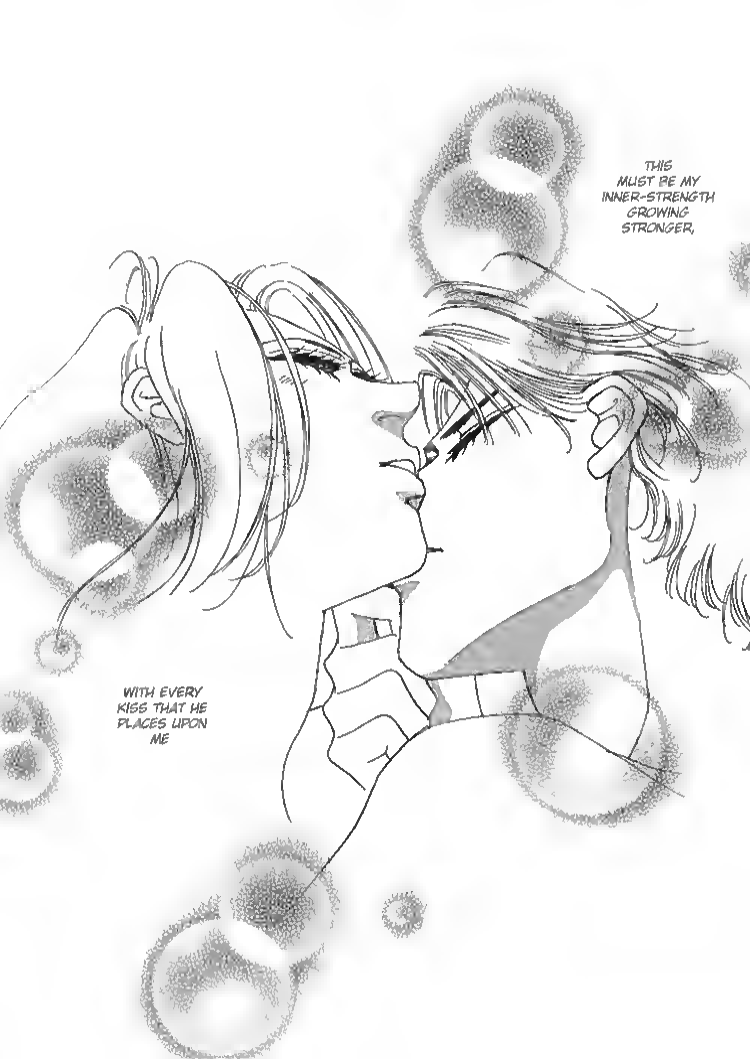
AH!

AH
MARS—!
WHAT IS THIS FEELING—
SOMETHING IS SPREADING WITHIN ME—
FROM WHERE MARS' LIPS HAVE LEFT THEIR TRACE—

I FEEL IT WITH EVERY FIBRE OF MY BEING
MARS
!
!!!

I WON'T LET HIM GO!
SQUEEZE
I WON'T LET THIS HAND GO
BRONTE...

BRONTE—
OH, NOW I UNDERSTAND
WHAT THIS FEELING IS


THIS MUST BE MY INNER-STRENGTH GROWING STRONGER,
WITH EVERY KISS THAT HE PLACES UPON ME

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Cleaner Lula

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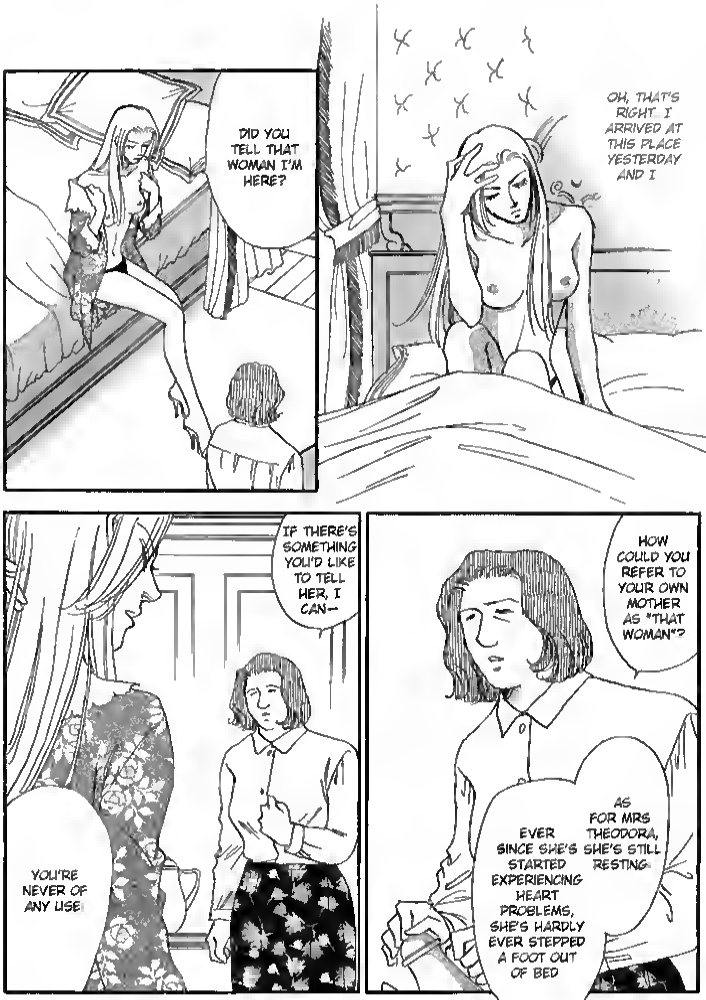
Chapter 28

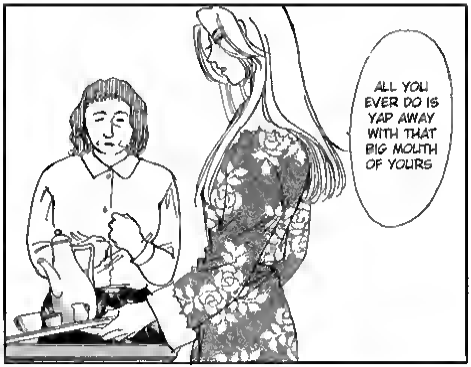
Volume 5

NNN

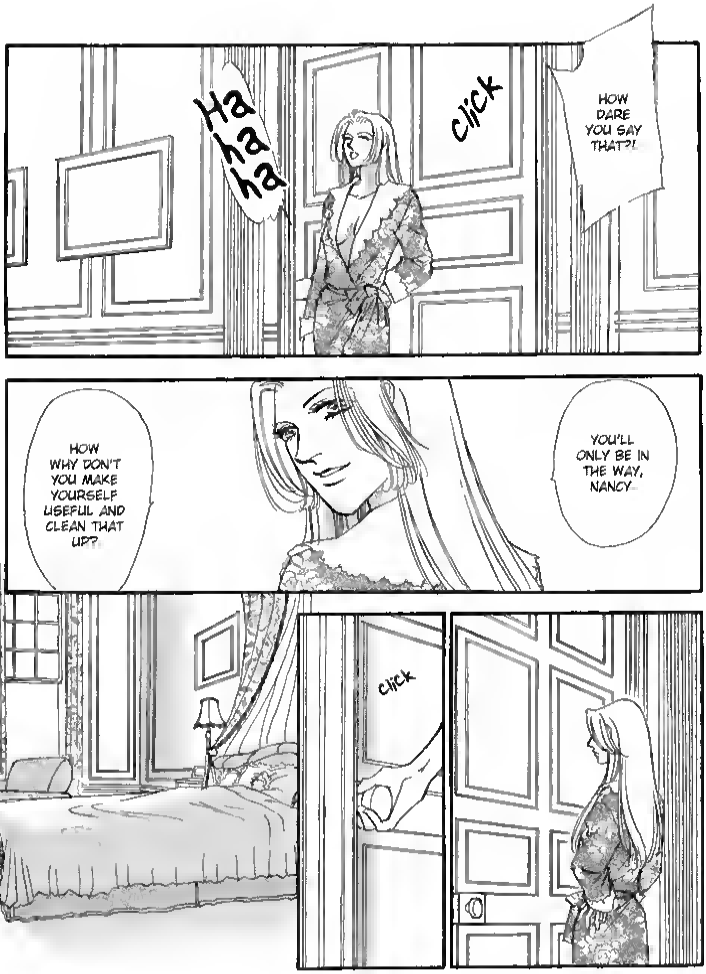
I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO AGAIN
I NEED TO BE PREPARED TO THROW EVERYTHING ELSE AWAY
I NEED TO PUT AN END TO EVERYTHING
FOR THAT TO HAPPEN THOUGH,
AH
GOOD MORNING

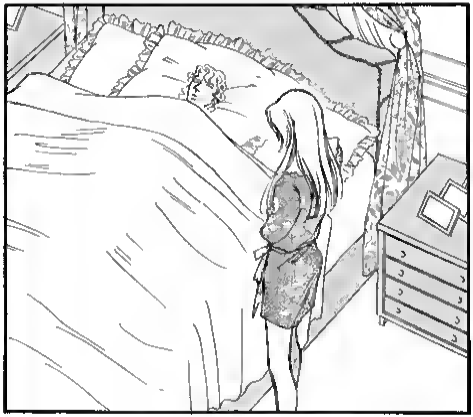
5
GOOD MORNING
Philadelphia
GOOD MORNING
HMM
I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOME COFFEE, MISS

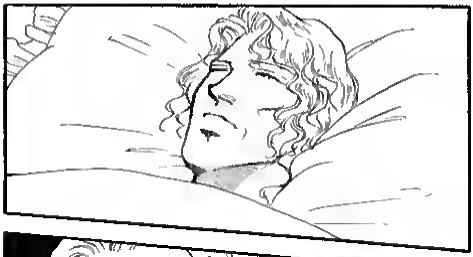

DID YOU TELL THAT WOMAN I'M HERE?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. I ARRIVED AT THIS PLACE YESTERDAY AND I
IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO TELL HER, I CAN—
YOU'RE NEVER OF ANY USE!
HOW COULD YOU REFER TO YOUR OWN MOTHER AS "THAT WOMAN"?
AS FOR MRS THEODORA, SHE'S STILL RESTING.
EVER SINCE SHE'S STARTED EXPERIENCING HEART PROBLEMS, SHE'S HARDLY EVER STEPPED A FOOT OUT OF BED

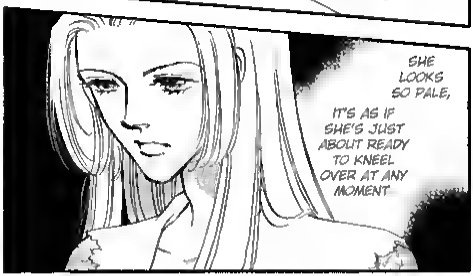

ALL YOU EVER DO IS YAP AWAY WITH THAT BIG MOUTH OF YOURS

Clatter
...MY!

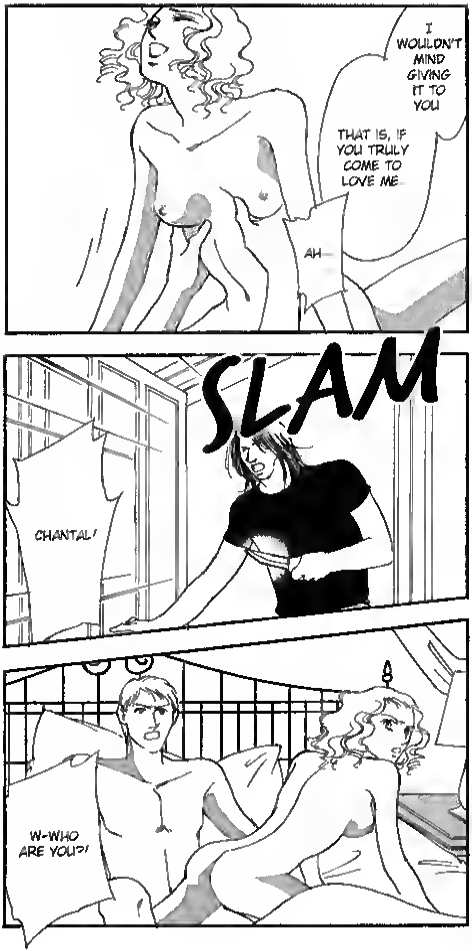

Ha ha ha
click
HOW DARE YOU SAY THAT?!
HOW WHY DON'T YOU MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL AND CLEAN THAT UP?
YOU'LL ONLY BE IN THE WAY, NANCY.
click

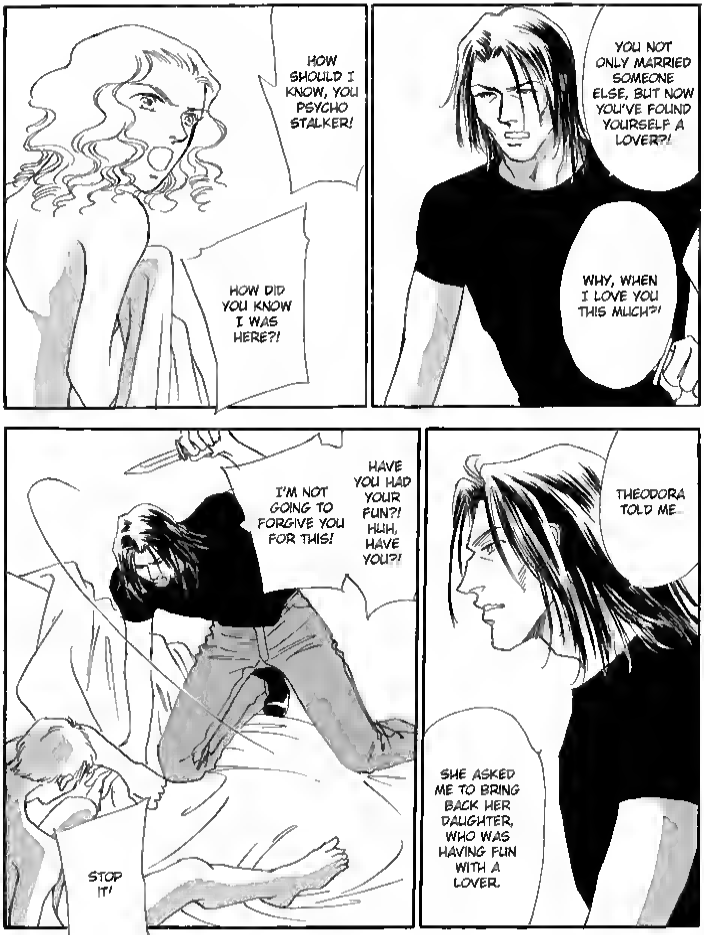





SHE LOOKS SO PALE,
IT'S AS IF SHE'S JUST ABOUT READY TO KNEEL OVER AT ANY MOMENT

I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN
HOW YOU TRIED TO MURDER ME THAT DAY FIVE YEARS AGO
FIVE YEARS AGO—
WHEN I WAS STILL "CHANTAL"
YOU'RE SUCH A NAUGHTY GIRL YOU HAVE A HUSBAND, DON'T YOU?
I COULD SAY THE SAME FOR YOU
YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME, AND YET WHAT YOU'RE REALLY AFTER IS MY HOTEL, ISN'T IT?

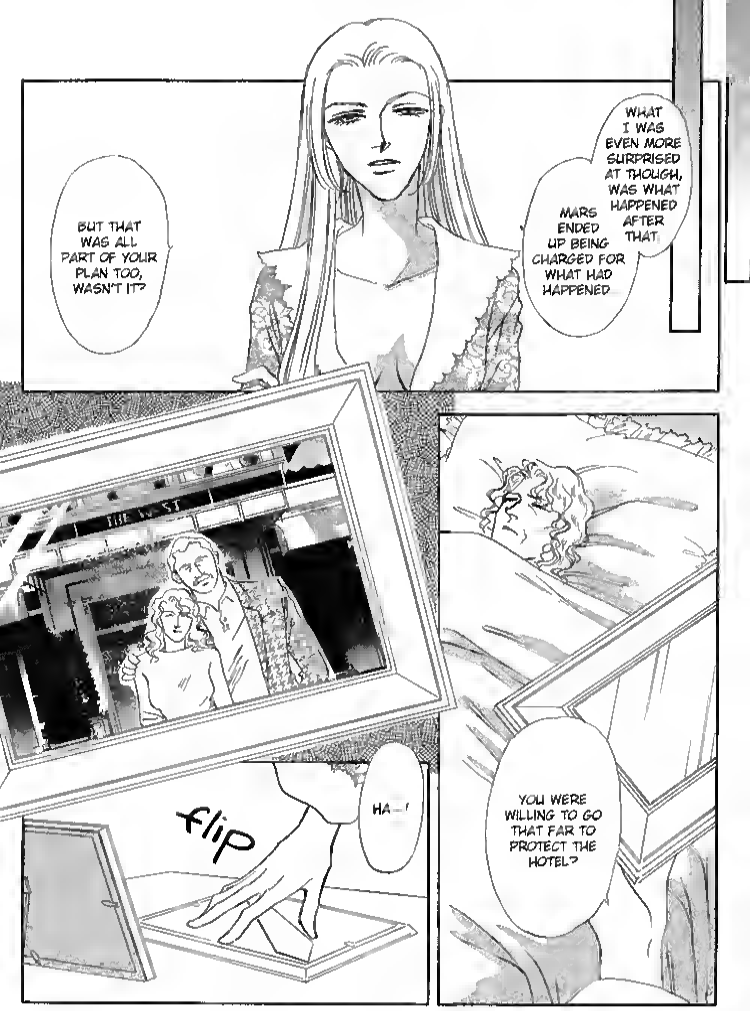

I WOULDN'T MIND GIVING IT TO YOU
THAT IS, IF YOU TRULY COME TO LOVE ME
AH...
SLAM
CHANTAL!
W-WHO ARE YOU?!


HOW SHOULD I KNOW, YOU PSYCHO STALKER!
HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS HERE?!
YOU NOT ONLY MARRIED SOMEONE ELSE, BUT NOW YOU'VE FOUND YOURSELF A LOVER?!
WHY, WHEN I LOVE YOU THIS MUCH?!
I'M NOT GOING TO FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS!
HAVE YOU HAD YOUR FUN?! HUH, HAVE YOU?!
STOP IT!
THEODORA TOLD ME...
SHE ASKED ME TO BRING BACK HER DAUGHTER, WHO WAS HAVING FUN WITH A LOVER.

AH
AAAAA!
STAB
SWISH
CHANTAL!
SLAM
MARS?!
BLINKS

THEODORA—
SHE KNEW HOW DANGEROUS HE WAS, SO WHY DID HE
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
WHY IS HE...
WAS IT TO PROTECT THE HOTEL?!
SO THAT THIS WOULD H..PPEN...?
SHE KNEW THE HOTEL WAS ABOUT TO BE SOLD TO ..NOTHER COMP..NY,
SO THAT'S WHY SHE TOLD HIM WHERE I WAS

ARE YOU SAYING THEN SHE WAS PREPARED TO LET HER DAUGHTER DIE TO PROTECT IT?!
kaboom
SPLASH


WHAT I WAS EVEN MORE SURPRISED AT THOUGH, WAS WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT.
MARS ENDED UP BEING CHARGED FOR WHAT HAD HAPPENED
BUT THAT WAS ALL PART OF YOUR PLAN TOO, WASN'T IT?
flip
HA—!
YOU WERE WILLING TO GO THAT FAR TO PROTECT THE HOTEL?

WELL, I WANT THAT HOTEL TOO,
SO THAT I WON'T HAVE TO GIVE MARS OVER TO THE LIKES OF BRONTE.
clatter
NOW WHERE IS IT?!
RUSTLE RUSTLE
AFTER SHE FOUND OUT I WAS ALIVE,
I'M SURE THEODORA WROTE UP A NEW WILL
SO THAT THE HOTEL WOULDN'T GO TO ME.

tense
IS THIS WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?
THEODORA ...!

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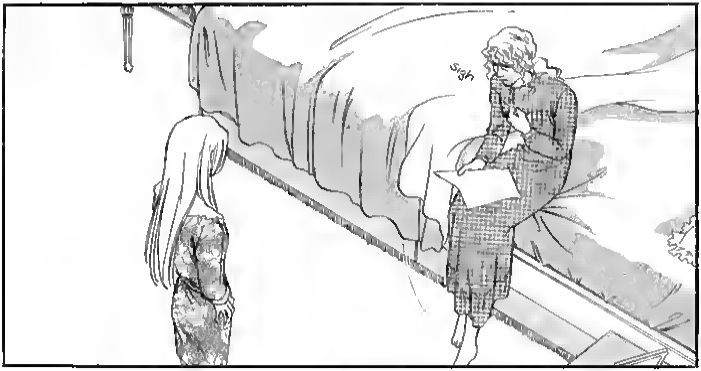
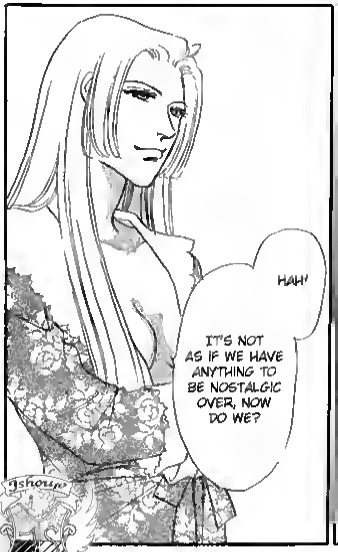
Chapter 29

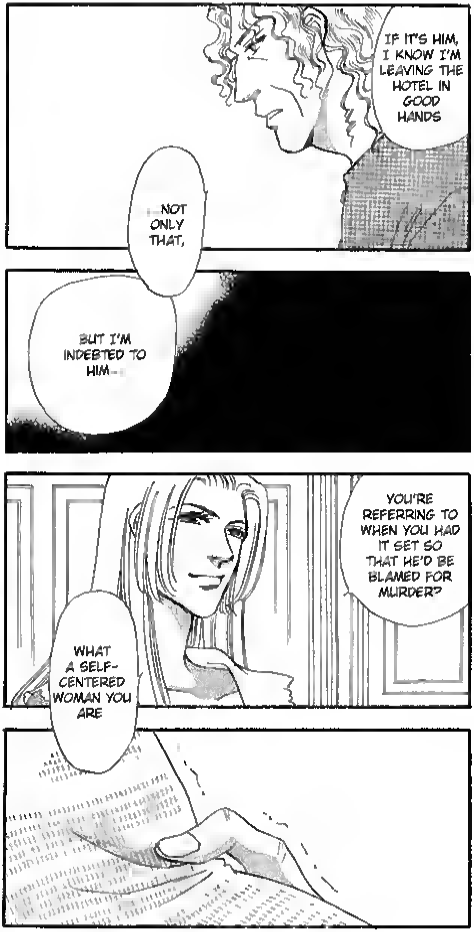
Volume 5





Ashoura Scans

SO THAT'S YOUR NEW WILL?
LET ME GUESS, YOU WROTE IT SO THAT MARS WILL INHERIT THE HOTEL?
THAT'S RIGHT
HE HAS THE INTELLIGENCE AND THE TALENT.
HE MANAGED TO TRANSFORM THE HOTEL, WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY RELIED ON ITS LONG HISTORY ALONE,
INTO A FOUR STAR HOTEL

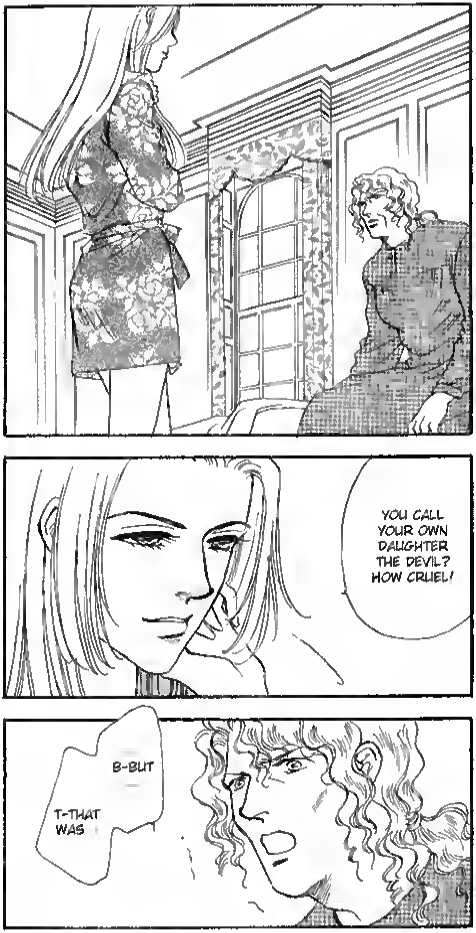

IF IT'S HIM, I KNOW I'M LEAVING THE HOTEL IN GOOD HANDS
...NOT ONLY THAT,
BUT I'M INDEBTED TO HIM...
YOU'RE REFERRING TO WHEN YOU HAD IT SET SO THAT HE'D BE BLAMED FOR MURDER?
WHAT A SELF-CENTERED WOMAN YOU ARE

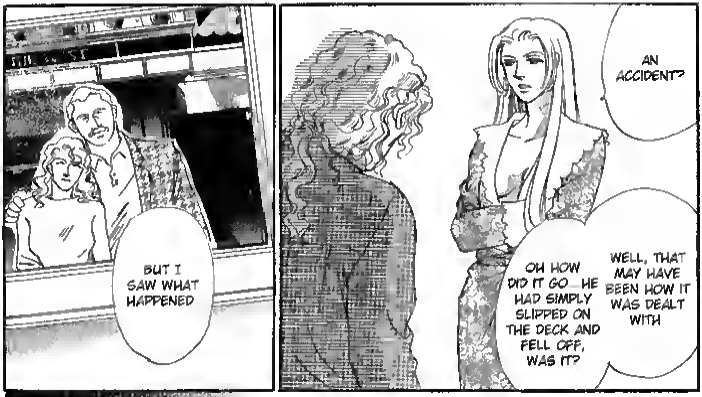
FIVE YEARS AGO WHEN YOU WENT MISSING,
EVERYONE THOUGHT YOU HAD DIED
I PLANNED TO OFFICIALLY DECLARE MARS AS MY SON, AND LEAVE THE HOTEL IN HIS NAME—
BUT ONE DAY—
RRRR
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
I SOLD MY SOUL TO THE DEVIL TO PROTECT THIS HOTEL

LONG TIME NO TALK, MOTHER.
CHANTAL!

I RECEIVED A CALL
FROM THE DEVIL HIMSELF

DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE PLANNING TO LET MARS TAKE OVER THE HOTEL?
THAT HOTEL'S MINE, SO GIVE IT TO ME ALREADY, WILL YOU?
JUST REMEMBER,
I KNOW ABOUT YOUR LITTLE SECRET.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO KILLED FATHER...!


YOU CALL YOUR OWN DAUGHTER THE DEVIL? HOW CRUEL!
B-BUT
T-THAT WAS


BUT I SAW WHAT HAPPENED
OH HOW DID IT GO—HE HAD SIMPLY SLIPPED ON THE DECK AND FELL OFF, WAS IT?
WELL, THAT MAY HAVE BEEN HOW IT WAS DEALT WITH
AN ACCIDENT?

—THAT NIGHT—
splash

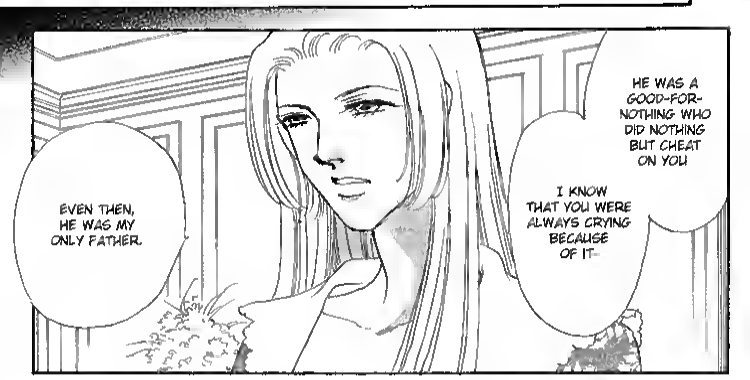
YOU TWO WERE ALWAYS FIGHTING.
YOU WERE SCREAMING AT HIM OVER ONE OF HIS LOVERS.

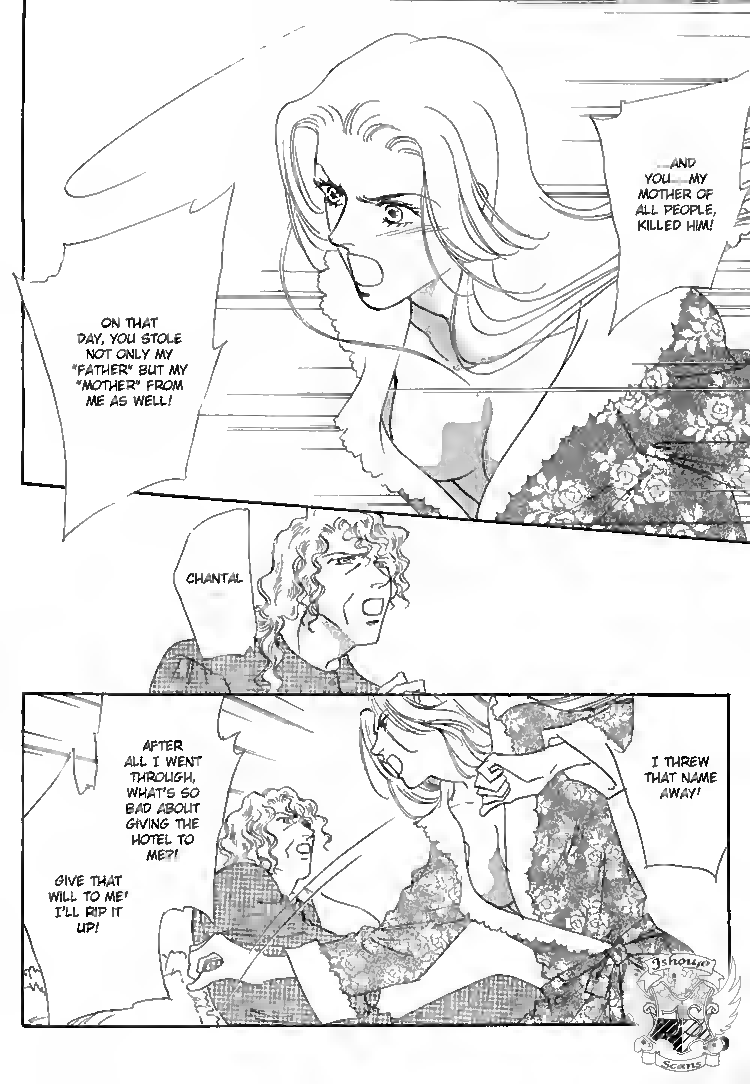
YOU AND FATHER WERE FIGHTING ON THE DECK

IN THE MIDST OF THE STRUGGLE,
HE...

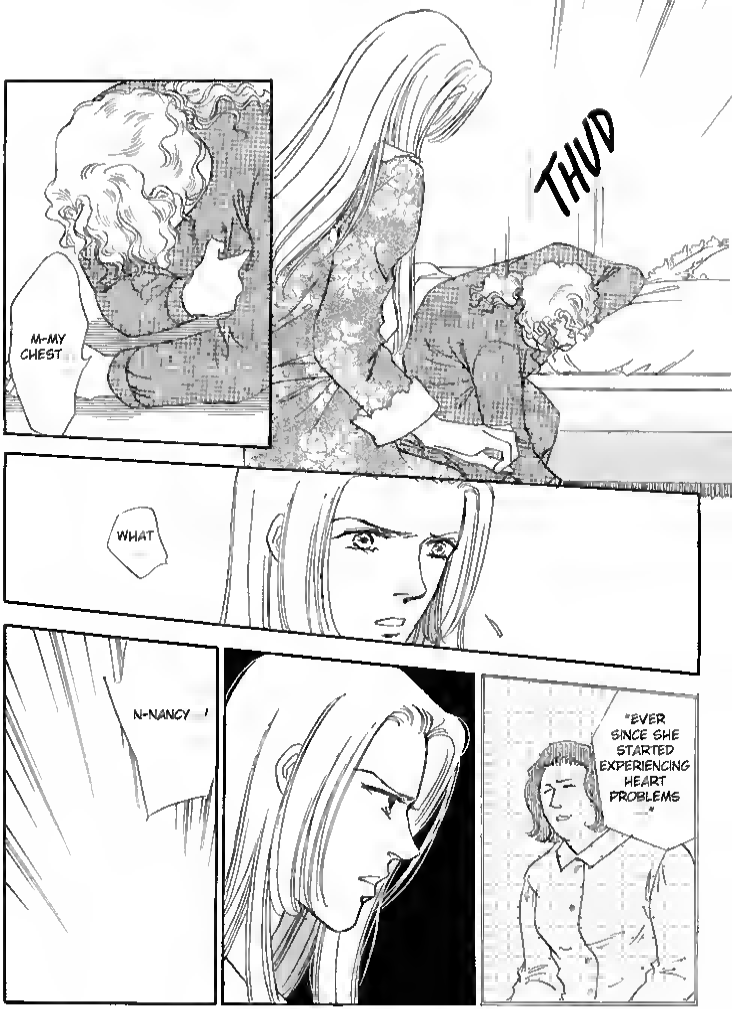
splash
YOU NEVER EVEN TRIED THROWING A LIFE PRESERVER AT HIM.
IF YOU HAD, HE MIGHT'VE SURVIVED.
BUT ALL YOU DID WAS STARE AT THE SCENE THAT UNFOLDED IN FRONT OF YOU.

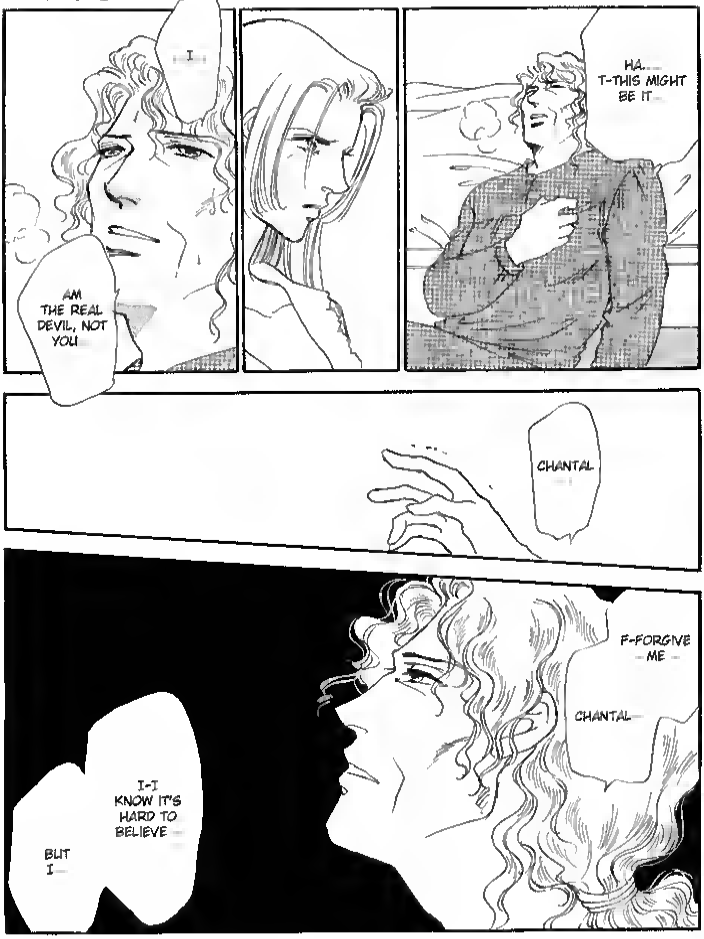
DARLING, PLEASE FORGIVE ME...
LIKE WE
bell chimes
bell chimes

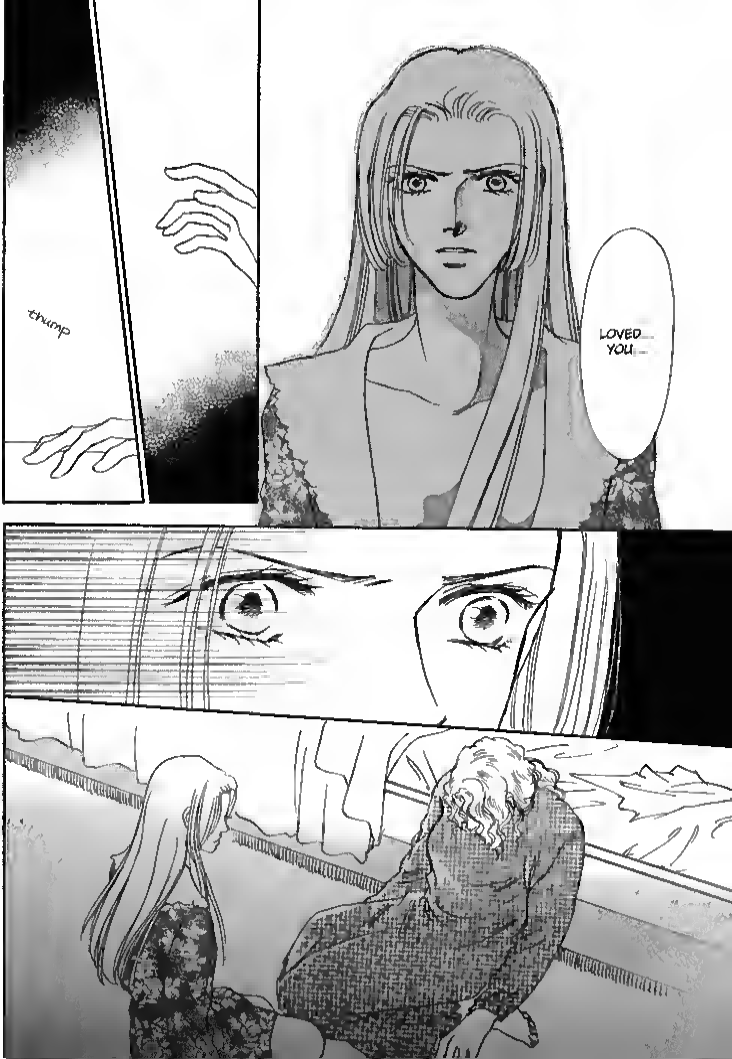

HE WAS A GOOD-FOR-NOTHING WHO DID NOTHING BUT CHEAT ON YOU
I KNOW THAT YOU WERE ALWAYS CRYING BECAUSE OF IT.
EVEN THEN, HE WAS MY ONLY FATHER.

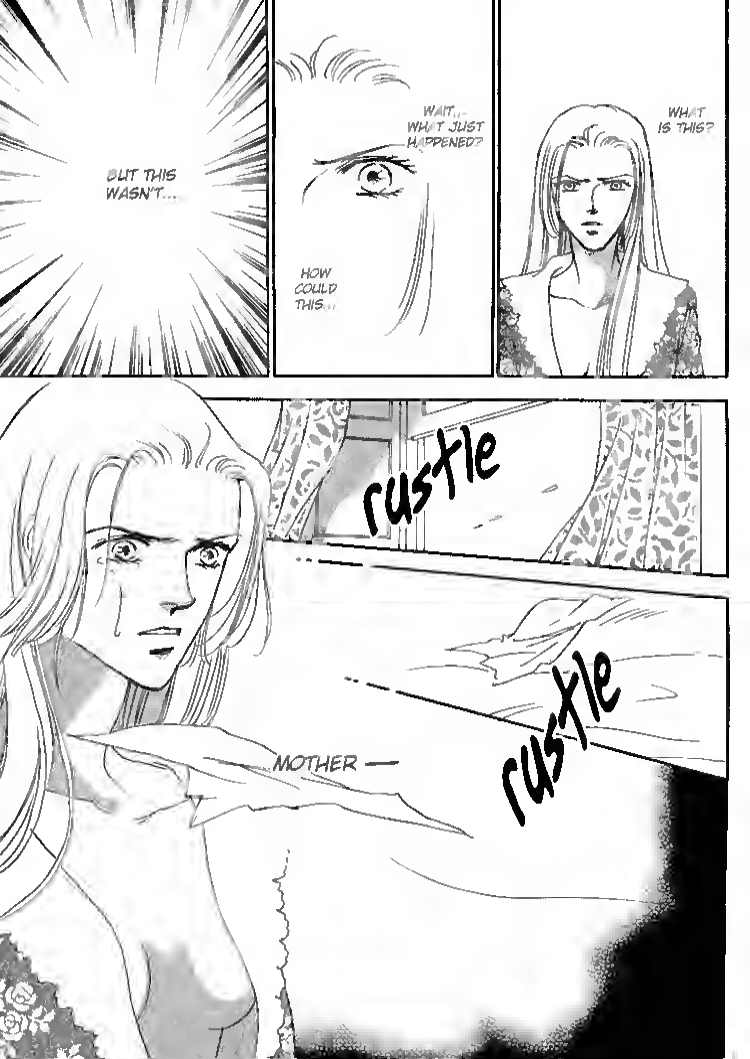

ON THAT DAY, YOU STOLE NOT ONLY MY "FATHER" BUT MY "MOTHER" FROM ME AS WELL!
...AND YOU... MY MOTHER OF ALL PEOPLE, KILLED HIM!
CHANTAL
AFTER ALL I WENT THROUGH, WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT GIVING THE HOTEL TO ME?!
I THREW THAT NAME AWAY!
GIVE THAT WILL TO ME! I'LL RIP IT UP!

THE LEAST I CAN DO IS SAVE THE HOTEL...
I HAVE TO PROTECT THE HOTEL HE PUT HIS BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS INTO... EVEN IF IT MEANS PUTTING MY LIFE ON THE LINE...
NO...!
YOU DON'T LOVE THE HOTEL...
SO WHAT?!
THEN WHY DON'T YOU JUST DIE ALREADY?!
UU...

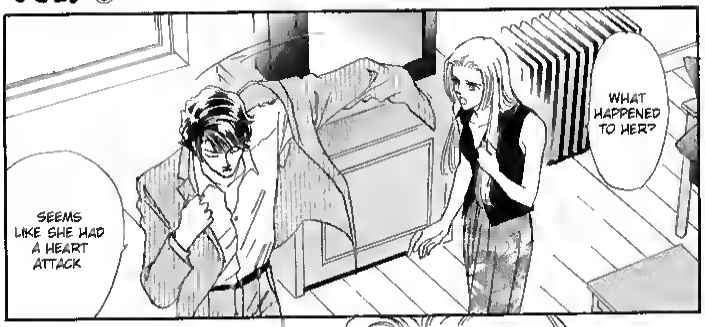

M-MY CHEST
THUD
WHAT
N-NANCY!
"EVER SINCE SHE STARTED EXPERIENCING HEART PROBLEMS"


I...
AM THE REAL DEVIL, NOT YOU...
HA... T-THIS MIGHT BE IT...
CHANTAL...
F-FORGIVE ME...
CHANTAL...
I-I KNOW IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE...
BUT I...

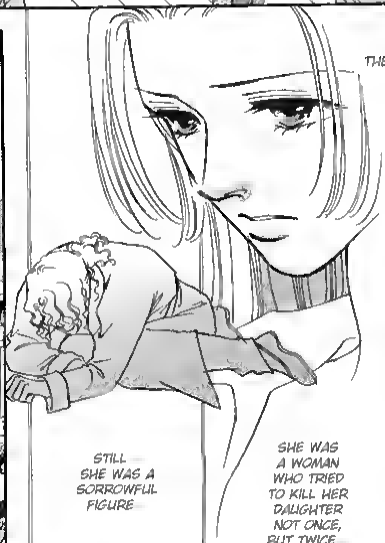

thump
LOVED YOU...

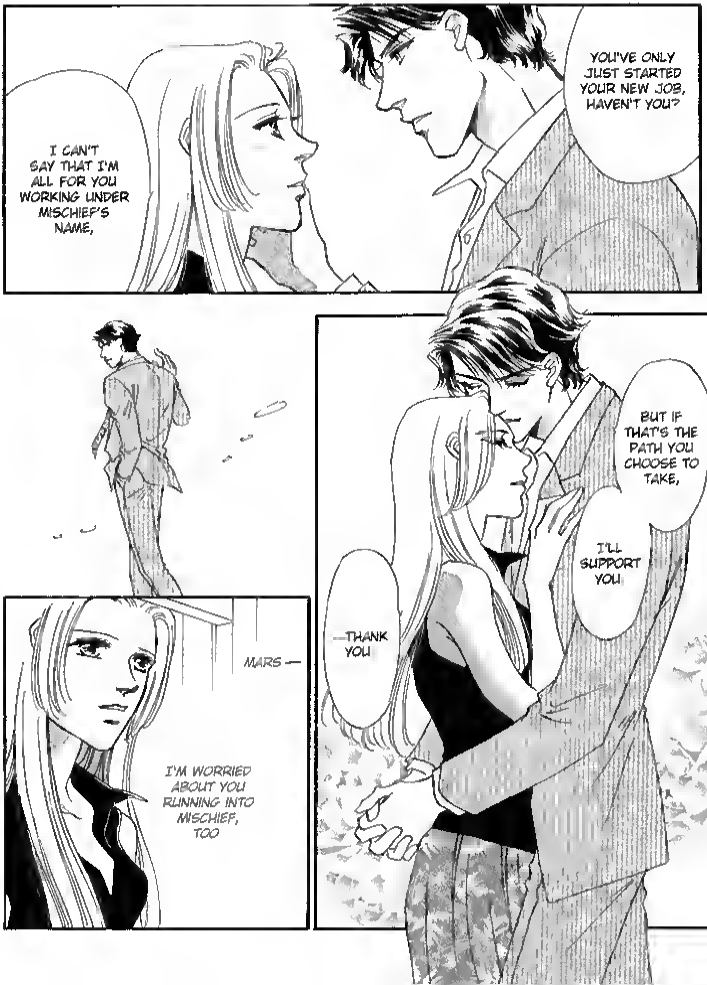

WHAT IS THIS?
WAIT... WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
HOW COULD THIS...
BUT THIS WASN'T...
rustle
rustle
MOTHER —

WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?!
THEODORA PASSED AWAY?!


WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?
SEEMS LIKE SHE HAD A HEART ATTACK

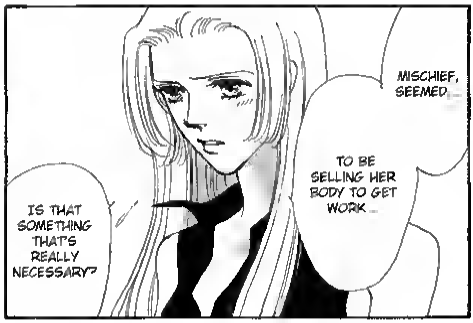
WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT IF I ATTEND THE FUNERAL AS WELL?
IT'S BETTER IF YOU DON'T
MISCHIEF WILL PROBABLY BE THERE AND I DON'T WANT YOU TO SEE HER.


THEODORA—
STILL SHE WAS A SORROWFUL FIGURE—
SHE WAS A WOMAN WHO TRIED TO KILL HER DAUGHTER NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE—

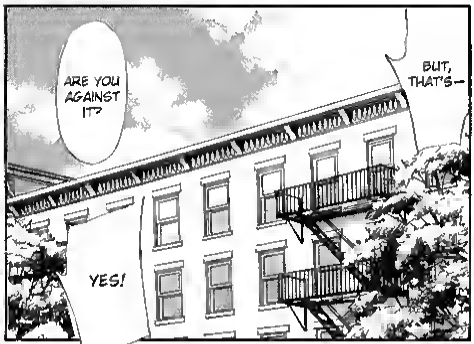

YOU'VE ONLY JUST STARTED YOUR NEW JOB, HAVEN'T YOU?
I CAN'T SAY THAT I'M ALL FOR YOU WORKING UNDER MISCHIEF'S NAME,
BUT IF THAT'S THE PATH YOU CHOOSE TO TAKE,
I'LL SUPPORT YOU.
—THANK YOU.
MARS—
I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU RUNNING INTO MISCHIEF, TOO

I JUST HOPE NOTHING HAPPENS...
GOOD MORNING
GRAY!
HOW ARE YOU FINDING YOUR NEW PLACE?
I'VE BROUGHT A FEW THINGS THAT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED
MY! THANK YOU!

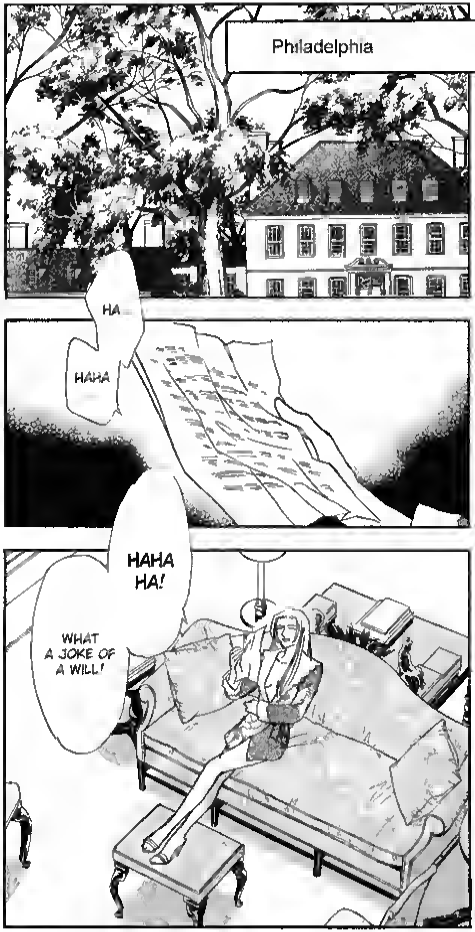
I HAVE TO DO MY BEST!
THAT'S RIGHT, I'M STARTING A NEW LIFE
YOU'LL BE DOING MOSTLY COMMERCIALS AND MAGAZINE PHOTOS
WAIT, GRAY
BEFORE WE GO INTO THAT, I'D JUST LIKE TO MAKE SURE OF ONE THING
NOW, ABOUT WORK
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, BECAUSE YOU HAVE NO EXPERIENCE IN DOING RUNWAYS WE BELIEVE IT'LL BE A BIT MUCH FOR YOU
WE'LL RETIRE YOU FROM RUNWAY SHOWS

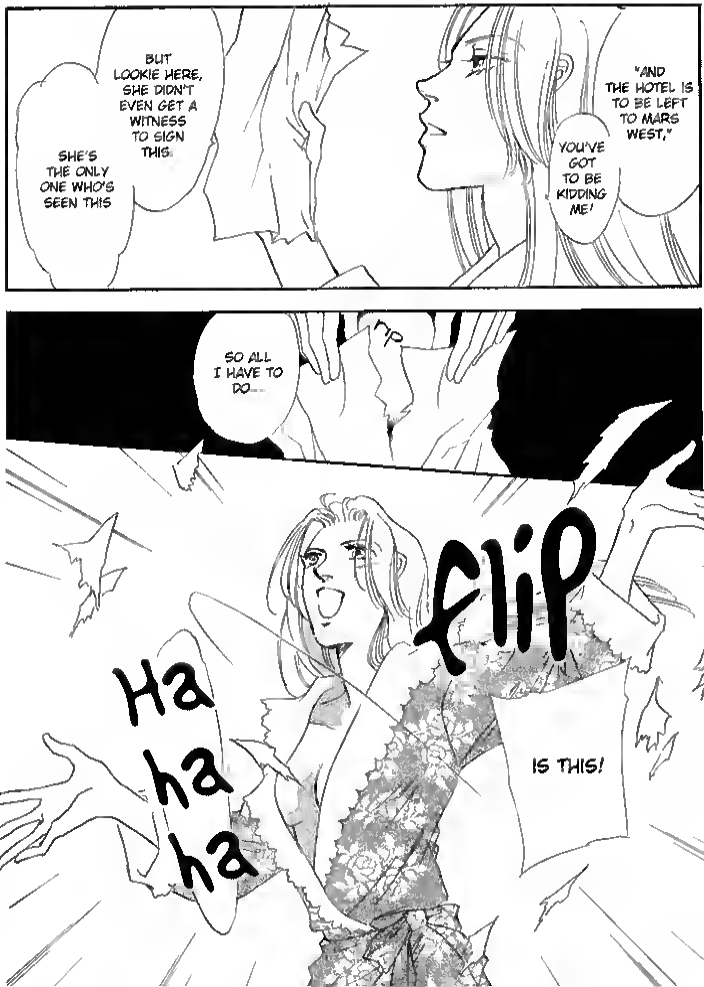

MISCHIEF, SEEMED...
TO BE SELLING HER BODY TO GET WORK...
IS THAT SOMETHING THAT'S REALLY NECESSARY?

YES

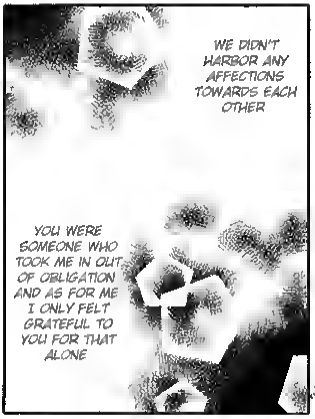

BUT, THAT'S—
ARE YOU AGAINST IT?
YES!

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D LET THAT GO SO EASILY—
A-AH. BUT GRAY,
WHAT—?
THEN, THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO DO IT.
SHE HAD HER WAY OF DOING THINGS,
AND YOU HAVE YOUR WAY OF DOING YOURS
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
GRAY—
THANK YOU!
I'LL DO MY BEST.


Philadelphia
HA
HAHA
HAHA HA!
WHAT A JOKE OF A WILL!

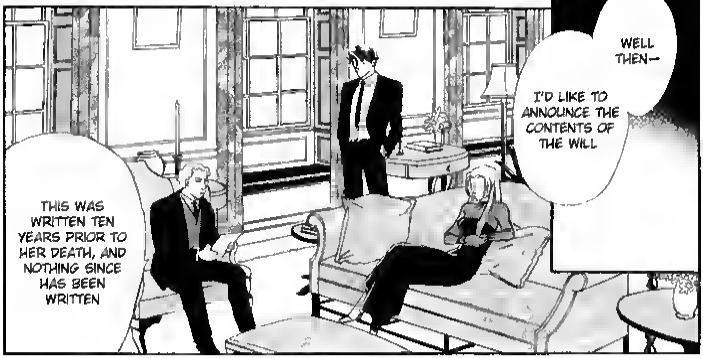

"AND THE HOTEL IS TO BE LEFT TO MARS WEST,"
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!
BUT LOOKIE HERE, SHE DIDN'T EVEN GET A WITNESS TO SIGN THIS.
SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO'S SEEN THIS
SO ALL I HAVE TO DO...
flip
Ha ha ha
IS THIS!

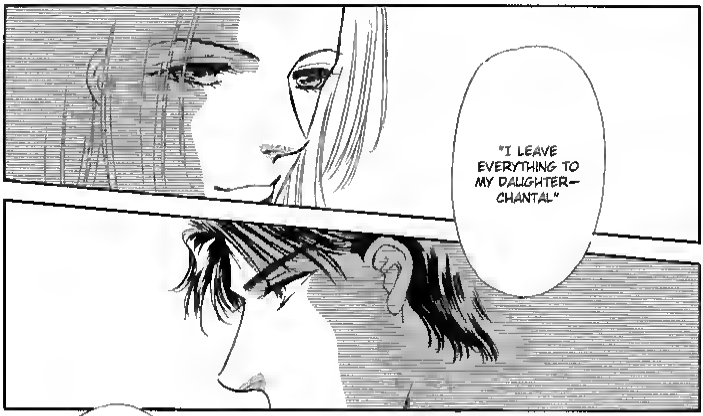
NOW, I'M SURE I'LL GET THE HOTEL--
AND MARS WILL BE MINE AS WELL!
bell chime

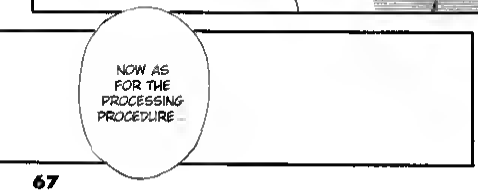

WE DIDN'T HARBOR ANY AFFECTIONS TOWARDS EACH OTHER
YOU WERE SOMEONE WHO TOOK ME IN OUT OF OBLIGATION AND AS FOR ME I ONLY FELT GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THAT ALONE

THEODORA —
THEODORE WEST

PLEASE REST IN PEACE
IF ONLY I COULD'VE MADE THE EFFORT TO AT LEAST GIVE YOU A GOOD NIGHT KISS


WELL THEN—
I'D LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THE CONTENTS OF THE WILL
THIS WAS WRITTEN TEN YEARS PRIOR TO HER DEATH, AND NOTHING SINCE HAS BEEN WRITTEN


"I LEAVE EVERYTHING TO MY DAUGHTER— CHANTAL"

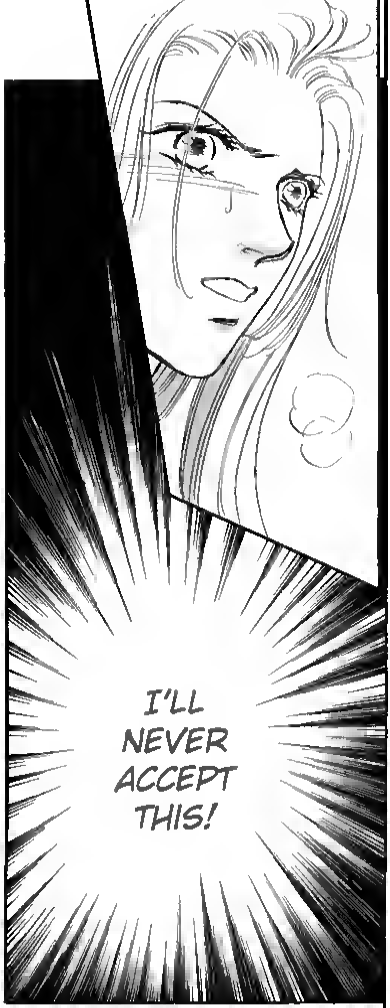

NOW AS FOR THE PROCESSING PROCEDURE...

WELL WELL WELL
NANCY, DO YOU MIND GETTING MY BEDROOM READY?
AREN'T YOU EVER THE COLD HUSBAND
IT'S THE NIGHT OF THE FUNERAL OF YOUR WIFE'S MOTHER'S DEATH AND YOU'RE GOING TO LET HER SLEEP ALONE?
HUSBAND AND WIFE, HUH?
WE MIGHT AS WELL TAKE THIS TIME TO CLEAR UP A FEW THINGS, CHANTAL

I'M DIVORCING YOU.
...IS THAT RIGHT?
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN'T BE CONVINCED OUT OF THAT DECISION
I'LL PROBABLY LOSE IN COURT TOO, SINCE AFTER ALL, I AM A WIFE WHO'S BEEN "MISSING FOR FIVE YEARS."
BUT YOU WERE A LITTLE LATE, WEREN'T YOU?
THE HOTEL'S ALREADY MINE

IF YOU DIVORCE ME THE HOTEL WILL NEVER BE YOURS
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT WITH THAT?
ARE YOU SAYING YOU CHOOSE HER OVER THE HOTEL?
ARE YOU REALLY CAPABLE OF DOING THAT?
THERE'S NOTHING I NEED OR WANT MORE THAN BRONTE
EVEN IF I STAY MARRIED TO YOU,
YOU'RE ONLY FOREVER GOING TO HAVE ME TIED DOWN TO THE SUB-OWNER POSITION

YOU'RE GOING TO REGRET THIS!
I FIRE YOU FROM YOUR POSITION AS SUB-OWNER! I'LL KICK YOU OUT AND LEAVE YOU PENNILESS, IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?!
GO RIGHT AHEAD


I'LL NEVER ACCEPT THIS!

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, WE'RE NOTHING MORE THAN STRANGERS
CHANTAL...
-EXCUSE ME
MISCHIEF JONES

JShoujo Scans

presents

Gold

Translator Oceansportrait

Proofreader Anya

Cleaner Lula

Typesetter Cassy

QCer Oceansportrait

Chapter 30

Volume 5

New York
THE WEST HOTEL...

THE WEST
THE EXTERIOR HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL
FROM WHEN I FIRST STEPPED FOOT INTO THIS HOTEL,
BUT ON THE INSIDE, EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED
ZAGOT SURVEY
I CHANGED THE EMPLOYEES, UPPED THE CUSTOMER SERVICE AND INCREASED THE NUMBER OF REGULAR CUSTOMERS
NOW, IT'S A HOTEL THAT CAN BE PUT ALONGSIDE THE OTHER FOUR STAR HOTELS IN THE CITY.

EXIT
Hunter Bar
WELCOME BACK,
SUB-OWNER.
OH A RESERVATION? PLEASE HOLD ON A MOMENT.
I PLAN ON STAYING NEXT WEEK I HAVE A RESERVATION UNDER THE OWENS
IT'LL BE MY WIFE'S BIRTHDAY, SO I'D LIKE TO HAVE SOME FLOWERS DELIVERED THEN

THIS IS HOW YOU SET THE BED
I'LL BE SURE TO COME AGAIN.
THIS IS MY HOTEL!

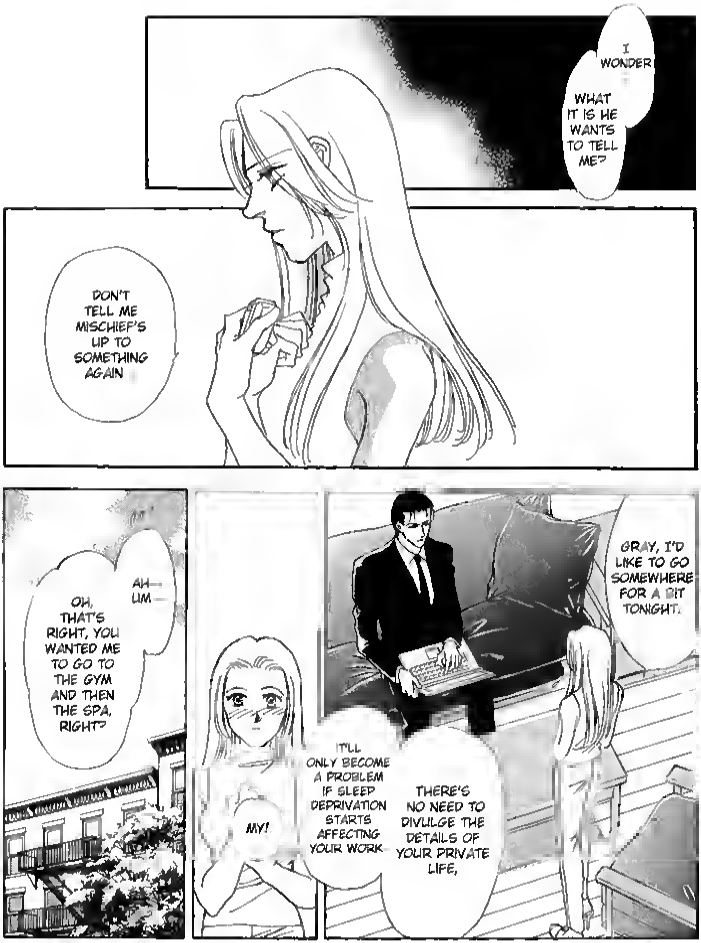
THIS HOTEL GAVE ME HOPE FOR A BETTER LIFE FROM THE DIRT-POOR LIFE I WAS LIVING BEFORE
IT'S THE AMERICAN DREAM ITSELF
I WAS THE ONE WHO MADE IT WHAT IT IS TODAY.
I WAS THE ONE, NOT HER
DAMN-IT
WELL, SHE CAN DO AS SHE DAMN WELL PLEASES.

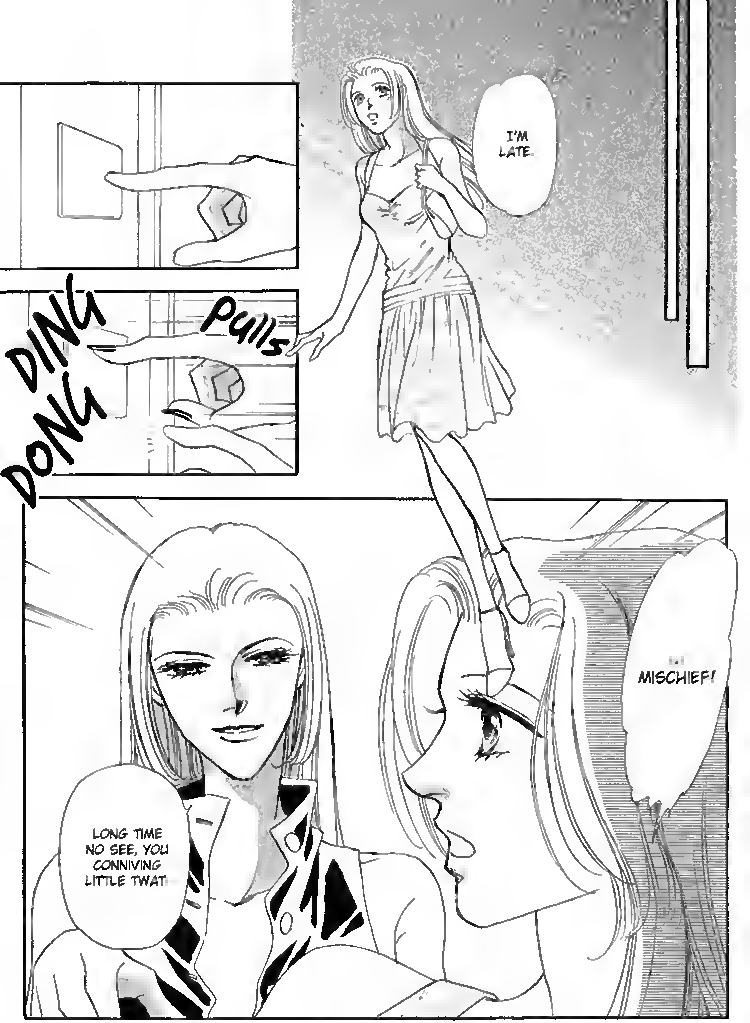
EVEN IF I BECOME PENNILESS,
I'LL MAKE IT MINE AGAIN, NO MATTER WHAT.
RRR...
OH, MARS! SO YOU'RE BACK
...UM, ABOUT MISCH—
NO, JUST FORGET IT.

I HAVE SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO TALK WITH YOU ABOUT
CAN WE MEET UP TONIGHT?
TONIGHT? SURE
I'LL SEE YOU THEN
pulls

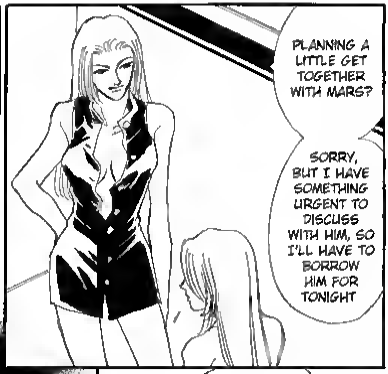
Tap
BRONTE—

NOTHING CAN REPLACE YOU...
EVEN IF IT MEANS HAVING TO GIVE UP EVERYTHING ELSE—THAT'S A DECISION I'M WILLING TO MAKE!


I WONDER WHAT IT IS HE WANTS TO TELL ME?
DON'T TELL ME MISCHIEF'S UP TO SOMETHING AGAIN
GRAY, I'D LIKE TO GO SOMEWHERE FOR A BIT TONIGHT.
THERE'S NO NEED TO DIVULGE THE DETAILS OF YOUR PRIVATE LIFE,
IT'LL ONLY BECOME A PROBLEM IF SLEEP DEPRIVATION STARTS AFFECTING YOUR WORK.
MY!
AH— UM—
OH, THAT'S RIGHT, YOU WANTED ME TO GO TO THE GYM AND THEN THE SPA, RIGHT?


I'M LATE.
DING DONG
Pulls
MISCHIEF!
LONG TIME NO SEE, YOU CONNIVING LITTLE TWAT!

MY!
I HAVE IT ALL BACKWARDS... I'M HIS WIFE, SO I HAVE NO NEED TO "BORROW" HIM FROM ANYONE, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

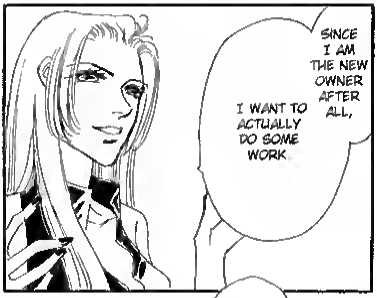

PLANNING A LITTLE GET TOGETHER WITH MARS?
SORRY, BUT I HAVE SOMETHING URGENT TO DISCUSS WITH HIM, SO I'LL HAVE TO BORROW HIM FOR TONIGHT

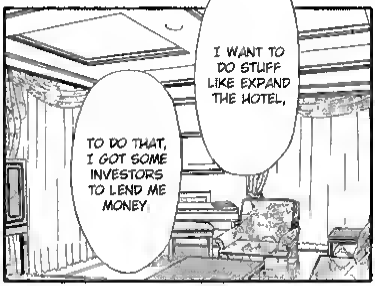
MISCHIEF ....!

I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

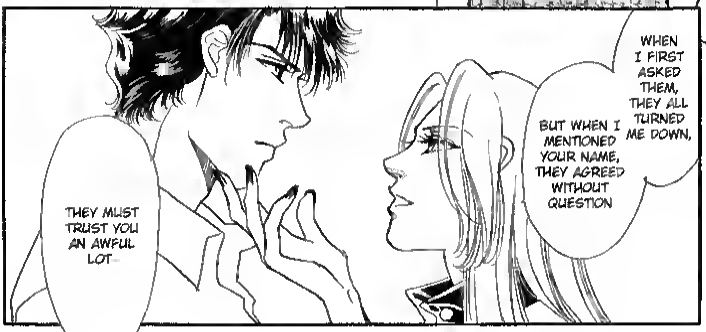
...

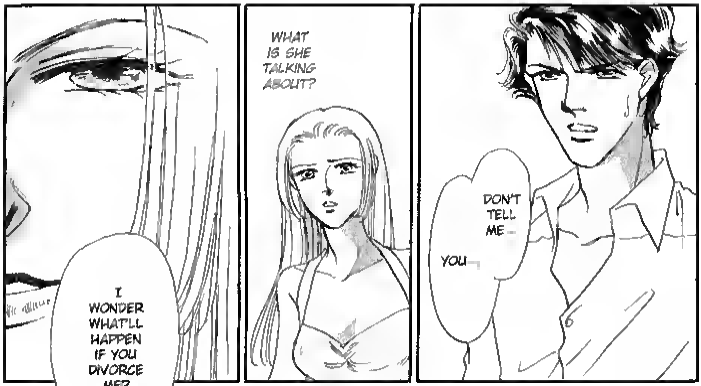
DON'T BE SO OBVIOUS ABOUT YOUR HATRED TOWARDS ME
I'VE COME TO GIVE YOU GOOD NEWS
THE DIVORCE?!
OKAY—
I'LL AGREE TO THE DIVORCE...
THAT'S ONLY IF
YOU'RE PREPARED TO WATCH THE HOTEL RUN ITSELF INTO THE GROUND

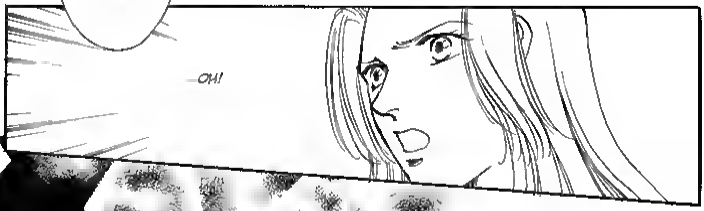

SINCE I AM THE NEW OWNER AFTER ALL,
I WANT TO ACTUALLY DO SOME WORK


I WANT TO DO STUFF LIKE EXPAND THE HOTEL,
TO DO THAT, I GOT SOME INVESTORS TO LEND ME MONEY

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


WHEN I FIRST ASKED THEM, THEY ALL TURNED ME DOWN,
BUT WHEN I MENTIONED YOUR NAME, THEY AGREED WITHOUT QUESTION
THEY MUST TRUST YOU AN AWFUL LOT—





IF MARS CUTS TIES WITH THE HOTEL

I'M SURE THE INVESTORS WILL WANT TO BACK OUT OF THE AGREEMENT,

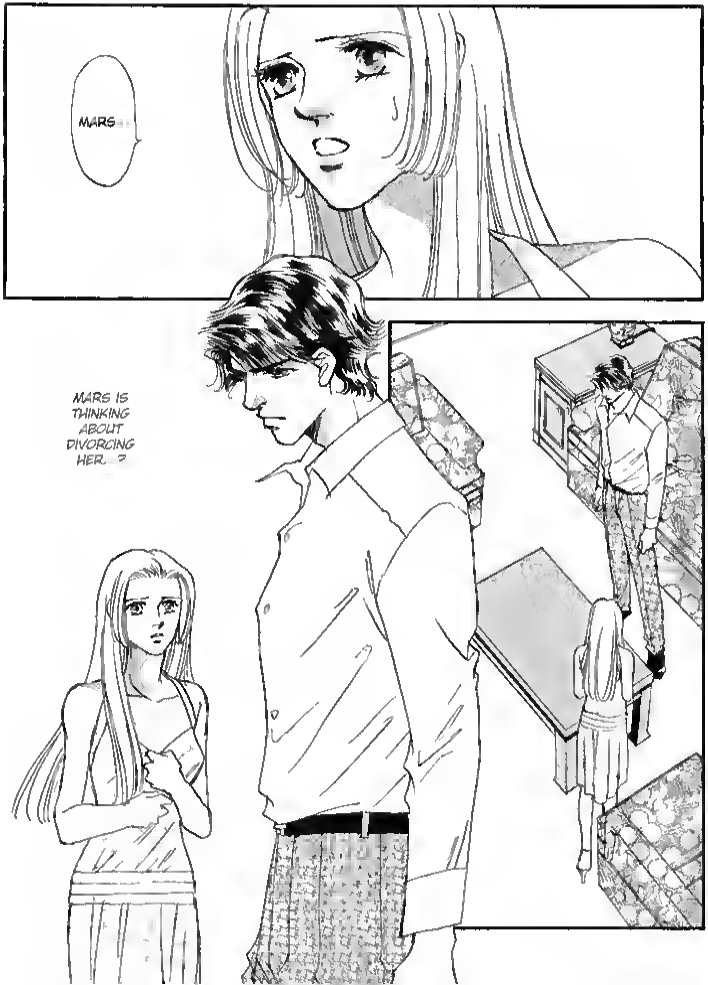
BUT BY THEN THE MONEY WOULD'VE ALREADY BEEN SPENT BUYING LAND

IF THE MONEY CAN'T BE REFUNDED TO THEM—

MISCHIEF!
THAT'LL BE THE END OF THIS HOTEL
BUT THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, RIGHT?
YOU SAID THERE WAS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU THAN BRONTE ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
WELL, HAVE A NICE EVENING YOU TWO!

MY HOTEL WILL...
THIS HOTEL... WILL RUIN ITSELF INTO THE GROUND ?
... MY HOTEL?

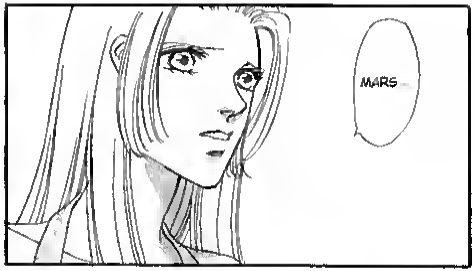
squeeze
BRONTE
MARS
BRONTE...

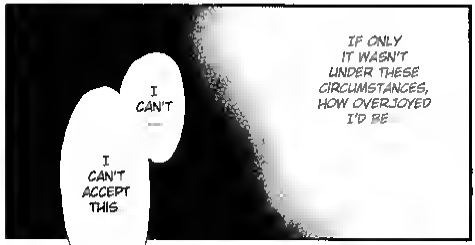

MARS...
MARS IS THINKING ABOUT DIVORCING HER...?

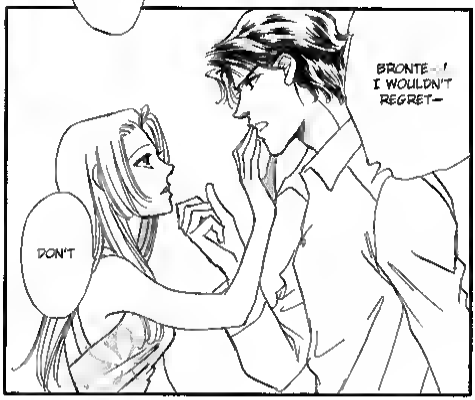
BUT IF IT MEANS HE'LL HAVE TO THROW THIS HOTEL AWAY I KNOW THAT'S SOMETHING HE WON'T BE ABLE TO DO
IS HE DOING THIS FOR ME ?
I FEEL HAPPY
DAMN-IT
squeeze

BRONTE,
WILL YOU

swish
ACCEPT THIS?
A RING...?
THERE'S NOTHING I NEED OR WANT MORE THAN YOU!
PLEASE TAKE THIS, AND ACCEPT MY HAND IN MARRIAGE


MARS...

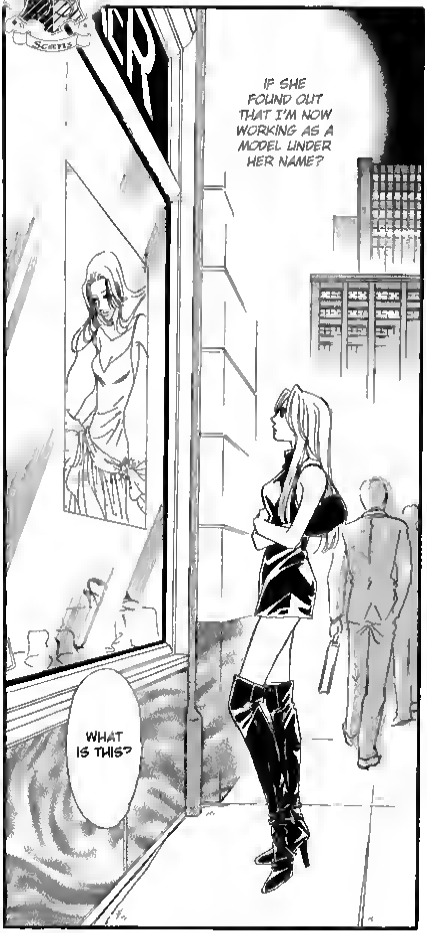

IF ONLY IT WASN'T UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, HOW OVERJOYED I'D BE...
I CAN'T...
I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS

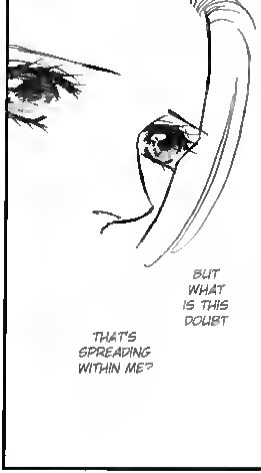

BRONTE...! I WOULDN'T REGRET—
DON'T

IF YOU SAY ANYTHING MORE, IT'D ONLY BE A LIE
squeeze

FIVE YEARS
...NO, THREE.
IN THAT TIME FRAME, I'LL MAKE THIS HOTEL MINE.
I WON'T LET MISCHIEF HAVE HER WAY.
WAIT FOR ME UNTIL THEN, WON'T YOU?
I WILL, MARS...!

Ishoujo Scans





MISCHIEF WAS DESPERATE NOT TO LET MARS GO

HOW WOULD SHE REACT

WHAT'S WITH THIS SUGARY SMILE?
HUH...SHE HAS SOME NERVE!

JShoujo Scans presents

Gold

Translator: Oceansportrait

Proofreader: Anya

Cleaner: Lula

Typesetter: Cassy

QCer: Oceansportrait

Chapter 31

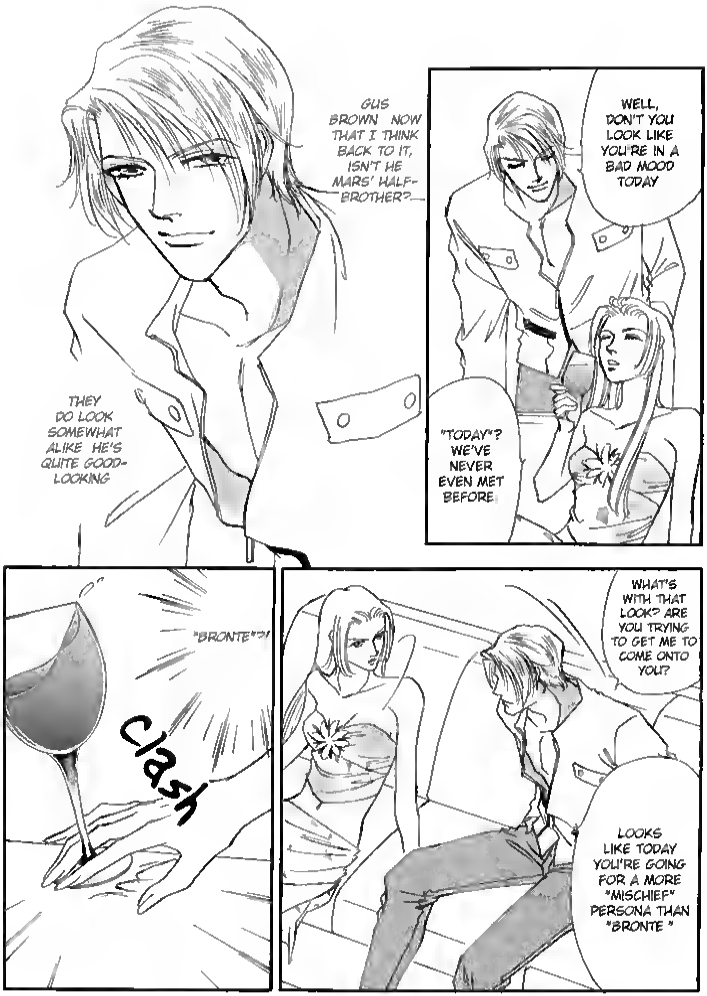
Volume 5

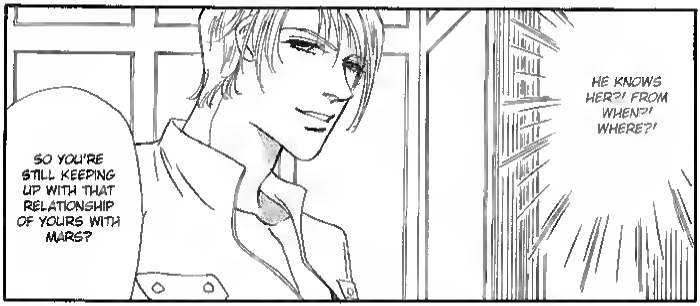
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!
YOU BETTER HAVE A GOOD EXPLANATION, GRAY!
IT'S JUST AS IT SEEMS.
"YOUR" NAME?
YOU'VE ALREADY RETIRED. THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
BUT SHE'S USING MY NAME!

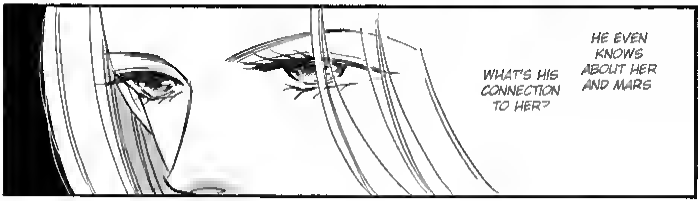
"MISCHIEF JONES" WAS A NAME THAT OUR MODELING AGENCY GAVE YOU.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SUDDENLY UPPED AND LEFT. YOU HAVE NO RIGHTS TO IT.
HUH, I ALMOST FORGOT
YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO'S COLD AS ICE
TO ANYONE WHO'S NOT OF SOME USE TO YOU

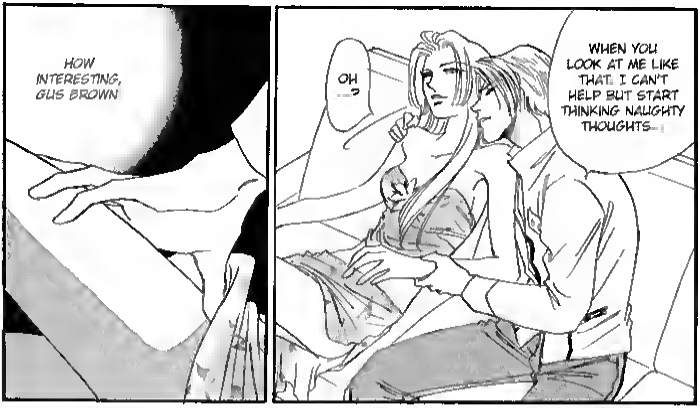
I KNOW, BECAUSE I'M THE SAME WAY
I EITHER LIKE SOMETHING OR I DON'T THERE'S NOTHING IN BETWEEN
THE THINGS I HATE—
I'LL MAKE DISAPPEAR—
PATN
WORLD'S LARGEST

click
MY MY,
THERE'S A FACE I HAVEN'T SEEN IN A WHILE.
WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT HER?
THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE MY OWN PRIVATE ROOM!
WHO ARE YOU?!
MY!
HE'S—
THE ACTOR, GUS BROWN
I KNOW, THAT'S WHY I CAME.


GUS BROWN NOW THAT I THINK BACK TO IT, ISN'T HE MARS' HALF-BROTHER?...
THEY DO LOOK SOMEWHAT ALIKE HE'S QUITE GOOD-LOOKING
WELL, DON'T YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN A BAD MOOD TODAY
"TODAY"? WE'VE NEVER EVEN MET BEFORE.
"BRONTE"?!
Clash
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK? ARE YOU TRYING TO GET ME TO COME ONTO YOU?
LOOKS LIKE TODAY YOU'RE GOING FOR A MORE "MISCHIEF" PERSONA THAN "BRONTE"


SO YOU'RE STILL KEEPING UP WITH THAT RELATIONSHIP OF YOURS WITH MARS?
HE KNOWS HER?! FROM WHEN?! WHERE?!

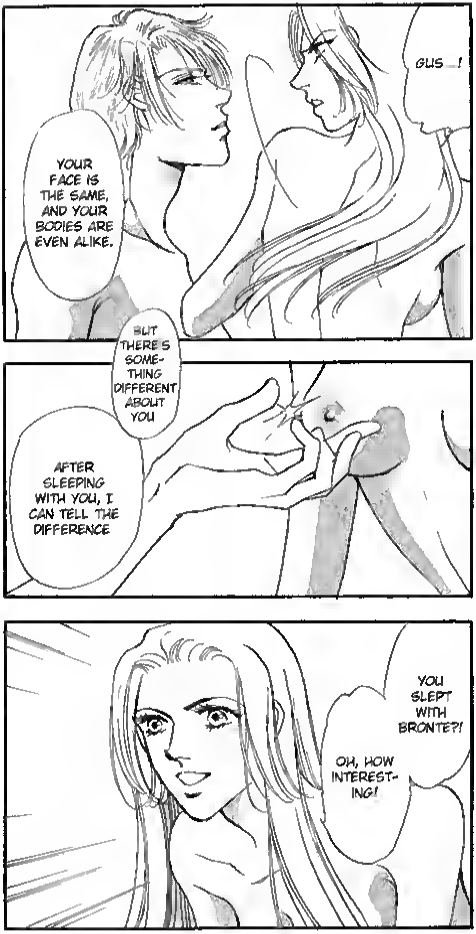

WHAT'S HIS CONNECTION TO HER?
HE EVEN KNOWS ABOUT HER AND MARS


HOW INTERESTING, GUS BROWN
OH—?
WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT, I CAN'T HELP BUT START THINKING NAUGHTY THOUGHTS—

I WONDER IF SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED BETWEEN THEM BEFORE, TOO?
HE'S MISTAKEN ME FOR BRONTE AND HE'S DOING THIS
OH-UCKIES
IT MIGHT NOT BE BAD TO GO ALONG WITH HIM
NOT HERE,
GUS

AH—
AH—
AHH
NOT BAD.

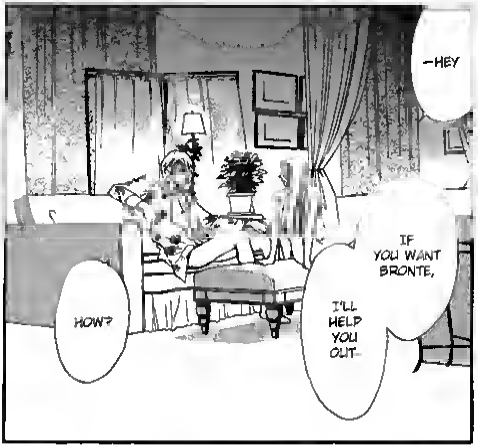
HE'S GOT A NICER BODY THAN I THOUGHT, AND HIS TECHNIQUE'S PRETTY UP THERE TOO
AHH
HE AND MARS DON'T SEEM TO GET ALONG, BUT I GUESS YOU CAN'T DENY GENES
EVEN IN BED HE REMINDS ME OF MARS
HOW IS IT?
AMAZING, GUS
AHH
THEN MIND TELLING ME WHO YOU REALLY ARE?

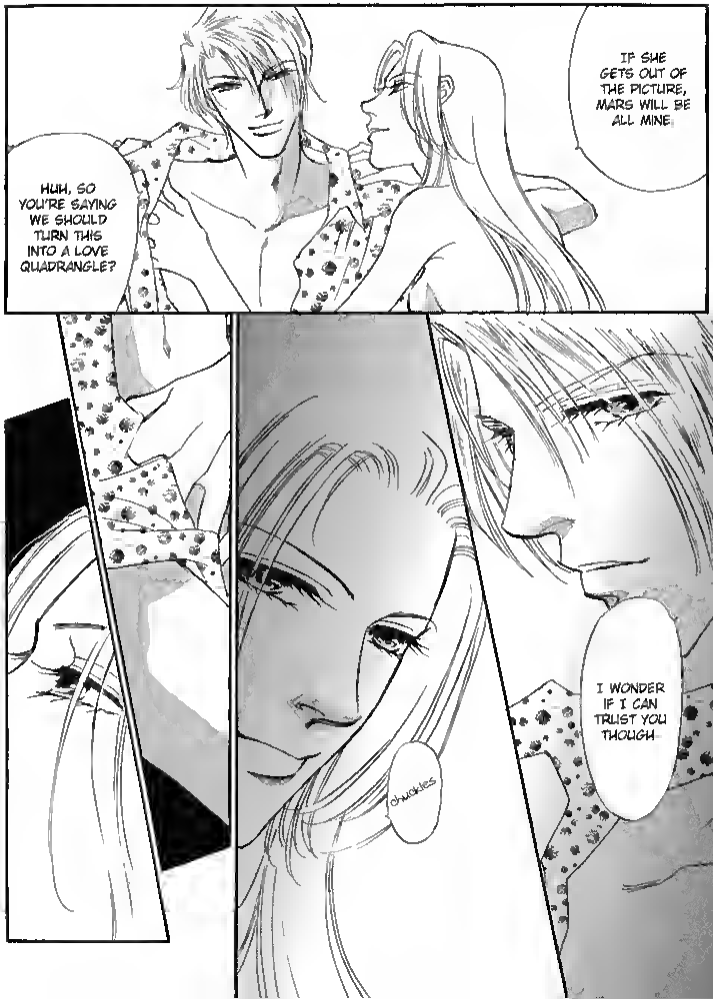

GUS...!
YOUR FACE IS THE SAME, AND YOUR BODIES ARE EVEN ALIKE.
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU
AFTER SLEEPING WITH YOU, I CAN TELL THE DIFFERENCE
YOU SLEPT WITH BRONTE?!
OH, HOW INTERESTING!

SHE'S JUST MY SUBSTITUTE I'M THE REAL DEAL, AND SHE'S THE FAKE.
WE DIDN'T GO ALL THE WAY. WELL, DUE TO CERTAIN CIRCUM-STANCES
—SO, WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HER?
IF ANYTHING MORE,
SHE'S SIMPLY THE OTHER WOMAN IN THE LOVE TRIANGLE WITH MARS.
HUH—
—WITH MARS, HUH?
NOW THAT'S INTERESTING
I'M STARTING TO FIGURE HIM OUT.

GUS MET BRONTE SOMEWHERE,
AND HE FOUND OUT ABOUT HER AND MARS
HE FIGURED IT MIGHT BE FUN TO STEAL HER AWAY FROM MARS —

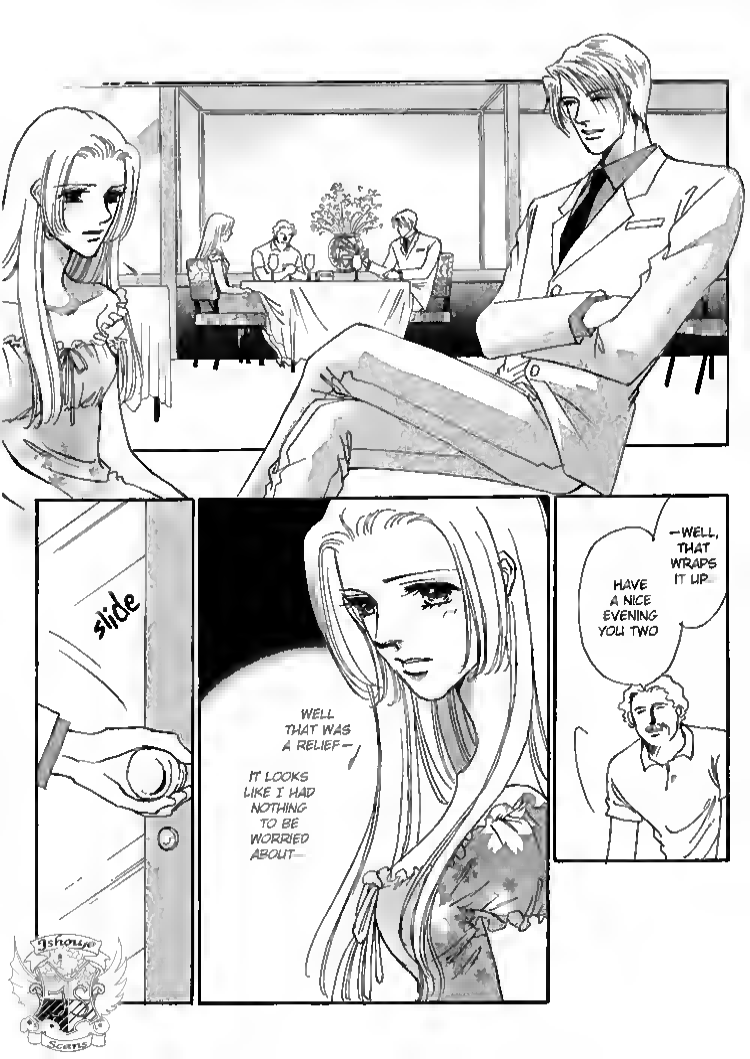
I'M GUESSING THAT ABOUT SUMS IT UP?


—HEY
IF YOU WANT BRONTE,
I'LL HELP YOU OUT—
HOW?


IF SHE GETS OUT OF THE PICTURE, MARS WILL BE ALL MINE.
HUH, SO YOU'RE SAYING WE SHOULD TURN THIS INTO A LOVE QUADRANGLE?
I WONDER IF I CAN TRUST YOU THOUGH.
chuckles

WHY DON'T YOU TRY ASKING MY BODY THAT QUESTION?

I HAVE TO MEET WITH GUS BROWN?
IT'S A PROJECT FOR A MAGAZINE, AND IT WAS REQUESTED BY GUS HIMSELF
IT SEEMS HE'S QUITE FOND OF YOU
IF YOU DON'T PREFER TO, SHALL I CANCEL?
BUT... THIS IS FOR WORK, RIGHT?
GUS – HE'S NOT SOMEONE I CAN TRUST...
I WONDER WHAT HE HAS UP HIS SLEEVE

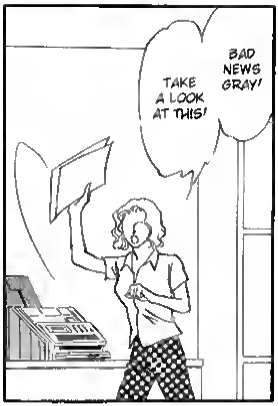

slide
WELL THAT WAS A RELIEF—
IT LOOKS LIKE I HAD NOTHING TO BE WORRIED ABOUT—
—WELL, THAT WRAPS IT UP.
HAVE A NICE EVENING YOU TWO

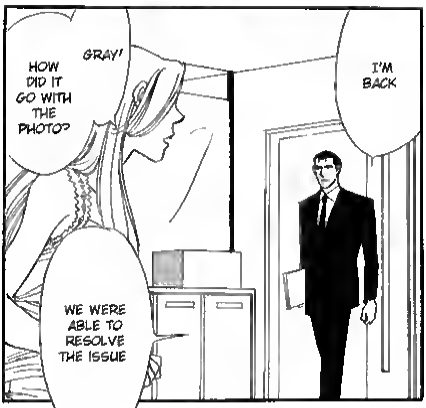
YOU SEEMED TO BE QUITE TENSE TONIGHT
ARE YOU THAT AFRAID OF ME?
GUS—
PULLS
WHAT?!

flash
HE TOOK A PICTURE ?!
dashes

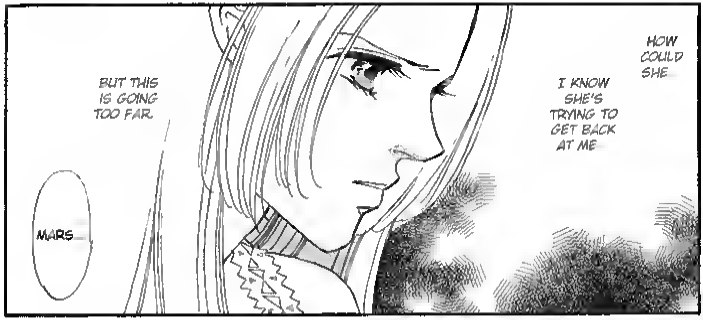
GRAY, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? THE MAN TOOK A PHOTO...
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
GOOD NIGHT.
SORRY, IT WAS JUST THAT YOU WERE TOO CUTE TO RESIST.
BUT HOW COULD THEY SET UP SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
I'M PRETTY SURE THIS WAS MISCHIEF'S DOING...
MISCHIEF'S ...?
THIS HAPPENED MANY TIMES WITH MISCHIEF AS WELL.
ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS BUY HIM OFF.

I JUST WONDER IF THIS IS MISCHIEF'S WAY OF TRYING TO ANNOY HER, OR IF SHE'S TRULY INTENT ON GETTING IN HER WAY...
clatter

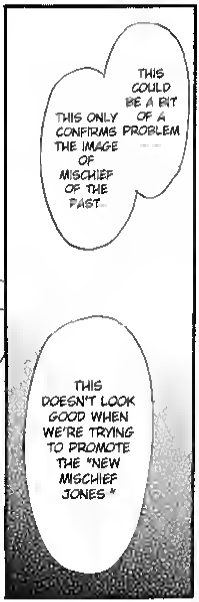

BAD NEWS GRAY!
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!


GRAY!
HOW DID IT GO WITH THE PHOTO?
I'M BACK
WE WERE ABLE TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE

WHAT IS THIS...!
"WHO'S YOUR REAL BEAU, MISCHIEF JONES? A POPULAR ACTRESS VS A LIAISON"
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS THE HEADLINE FOR SOME TABLOID.
B-BUT, THESE AREN'T ME--!


BUT THIS IS GOING TOO FAR.
MARS...
I KNOW SHE'S TRYING TO GET BACK AT ME...
HOW COULD SHE...

MARS —

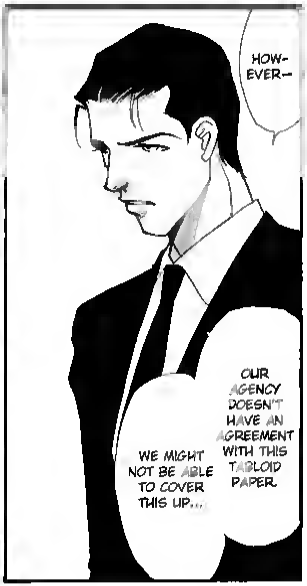

THIS ONLY CONFIRMS THE IMAGE OF MISCHIEF OF THE PAST...
THIS COULD BE A BIT OF A PROBLEM...
THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD WHEN WE'RE TRYING TO PROMOTE THE "NEW MISCHIEF JONES."

SO THAT PHOTO THE OTHER DAY WAS JUST A PREMONITION OF WHAT'S TO COME
SHE'S DONE IT NOW

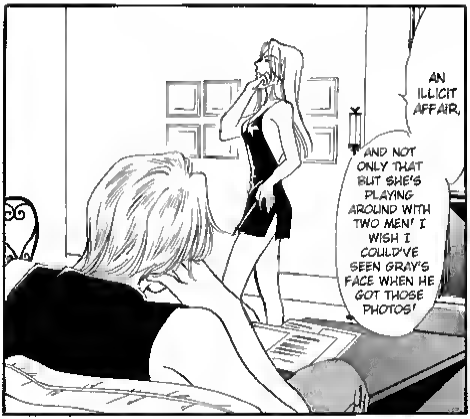
IF A SCANDAL LIKE THIS BREAKS OUT NOW
HE'S TRYING HIS HARDEST TO SUCCEED
"GIVE ME FIVE YEARS
NO, THREE TO MAKE THE HOTEL MINE."
EVEN THOUGH THEY LEFT OUT HIS NAME, IT'S EASY TO FIGURE OUT WHO IT IS
HIS FACE IS CLEAR AS DAY IN THIS PICTURE
MARS...!

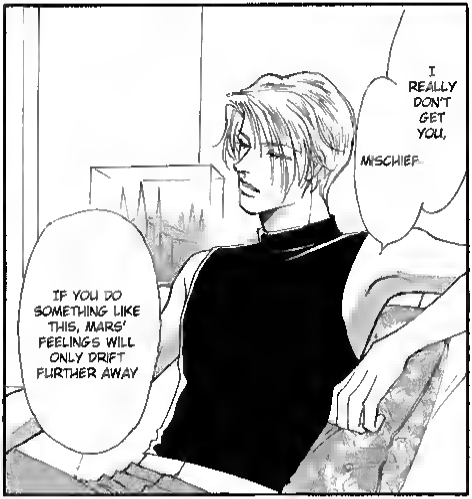
GRAY!
WE CAN'T LET THEM PRINT THIS!
OF COURSE NOT.

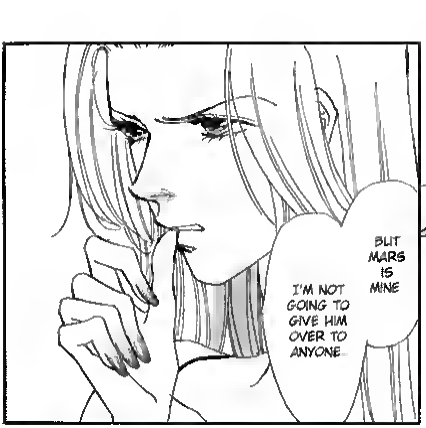
SHE MUST'VE KNOWN ABOUT THIS.
THEN, WHAT ABOUT GUS?
I'M SURE IT'LL BE PROBLEMATIC FOR HIM AS WELL IF THIS GETS OUT!

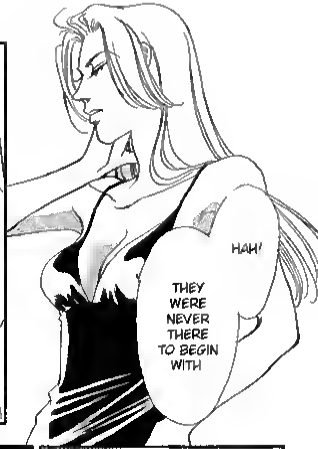

HOW-EVER--
OUR AGENCY DOESN'T HAVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THIS TABLOID PAPER.
WE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO COVER THIS UP...

I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT...
IF YOU THINK BACK TO THE PHOTO THE OTHER DAY,
I HAVE A FEELING HE'S INVOLVED IN THIS AS WELL
THAT CAN'T BE...
WE'LL DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO MAKE SURE THIS DOESN'T GET OUT
Ha
ha
ha


AN ILLICIT AFFAIR,
AND NOT ONLY THAT BUT SHE'S PLAYING AROUND WITH TWO MEN! I WISH I COULD'VE SEEN GRAY'S FACE WHEN HE GOT THOSE PHOTOS!

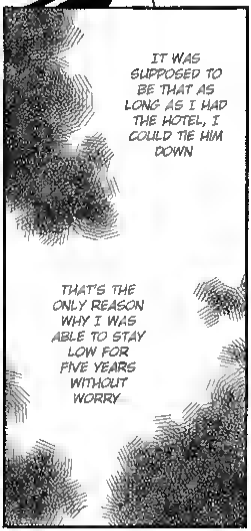

I REALLY DON'T GET YOU, MISCHIEF.
IF YOU DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS, MARS' FEELINGS WILL ONLY DRIFT FURTHER AWAY

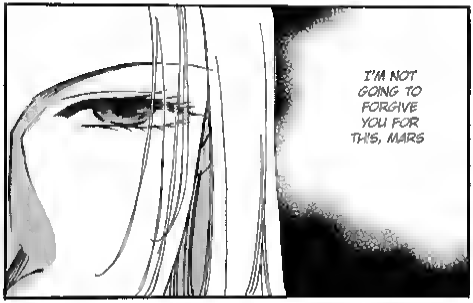

I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE HIM OVER TO ANYONE...
BUT MARS IS MINE


HAH!
THEY WERE NEVER THERE TO BEGIN WITH

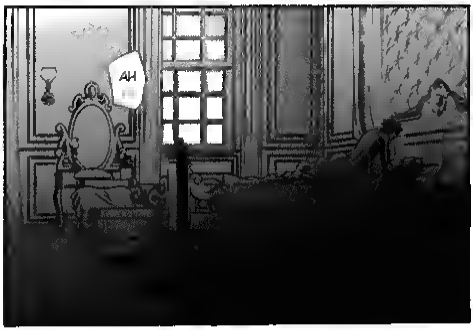
"I DON'T NEED ANYTHING MORE. ALL I NEED IS BRONTE."

BUT...


IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THAT AS LONG AS I HAD THE HOTEL, I COULD TIE HIM DOWN
THAT'S THE ONLY REASON WHY I WAS ABLE TO STAY LOW FOR FIVE YEARS WITHOUT WORRY


I'M NOT GOING TO FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS, MARS

YOU MARRIED ME TELLING ME IT WAS SO YOU COULD MAKE THE HOTEL YOURS
"LIS" MARRY?
DOESN'T SOUND SO BAD "


AH

YOU NEVER SHOWED ANY EMOTION WHEN YOU SLEPT WITH ME.
NOT EVEN SO MUCH AS A FLICKER OF REVULSION.
MY PRIDE WAS LEFT IN PIECES EVERY TIME
THE ONLY THING I HAD LEFT TO SHOW WERE MY FEELINGS WHICH WERE BEING IRREVOCABLY DRAWN TO HIM.
DESPITE THIS, I LOST MYSELF IN HIS EMBRACE EACH TIME.
AH...

splash
I'M NOT GIVING HIM OVER TO ANYONE
HE'S MINE

HUH, SHE'S SOMEONE YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO GET ON HER BAD SIDE
—HOWEVER,
rustle
SHE'S NOT EXACTLY ONE OF THE SHARPEST TOOLS IN THE SHED.

JShoujo Scans

presents

Gold

Translator Oceansportrait

Proofreader Anya

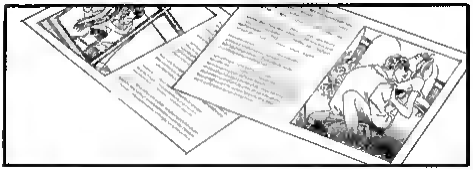
Cleaner Lula

Typesetter Cassy

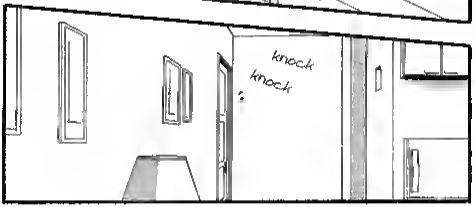
QCer Oceansportrait

Chapter 32

Volume 5



WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT THIS—!

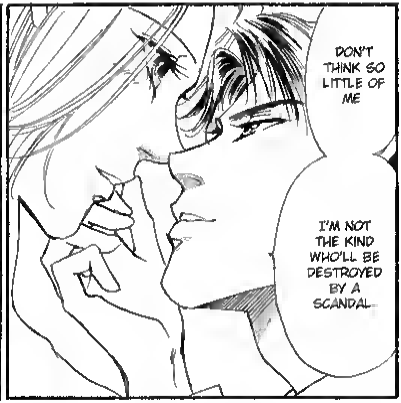

knock
knock

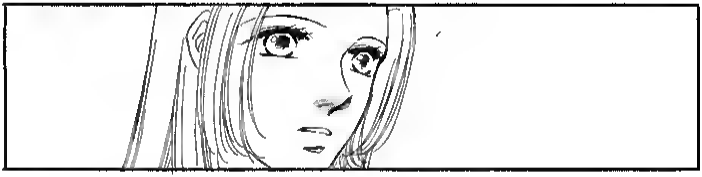
RUSTLE
THAT MUST BE MARS!
WHAT'S UP?
WHY ARE YOU DRAWING THE CURTAINS?
AH... I JUST FORGOT TO CLOSE IT THAT'S ALL
IF THEY GET A PICTURE OF ME WITH HIM,
THEN THINGS WILL JUST GET EVEN MORE COMPLICATED
squeeze

stares
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
NOTH-ING!
AH... WELL...
MARS!
THIS IS JUST LIKE HER TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
Ah Ah Ah

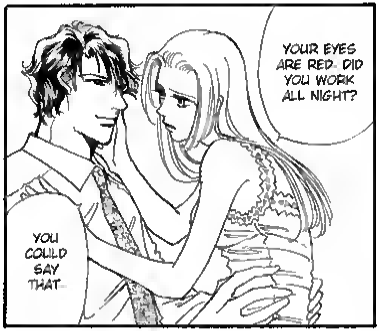
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THEY PHOTOGRAPH US TOGETHER
WELL...
NOW, IT ALL MAKES SENSE
SO THAT'S WHY YOU WERE SO QUICK TO DRAW THE CURTAINS
MARS.
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THEM AS THE LOVE OF MY LIFE
IF THEY TAKE A SHOT OF US TOGETHER,
I'LL ONLY FEEL FLATTERED

AND AT ANY RATE, YOU ARE THE ONE WHO'LL BE HURT BY IT MORE THAN ME
I'LL BE ALL RIGHT,
I HAVE A TOP-RATE MANAGER WITH ME, AFTER ALL


DON'T THINK SO LITTLE OF ME
I'M NOT THE KIND WHO'LL BE DESTROYED BY A SCANDAL

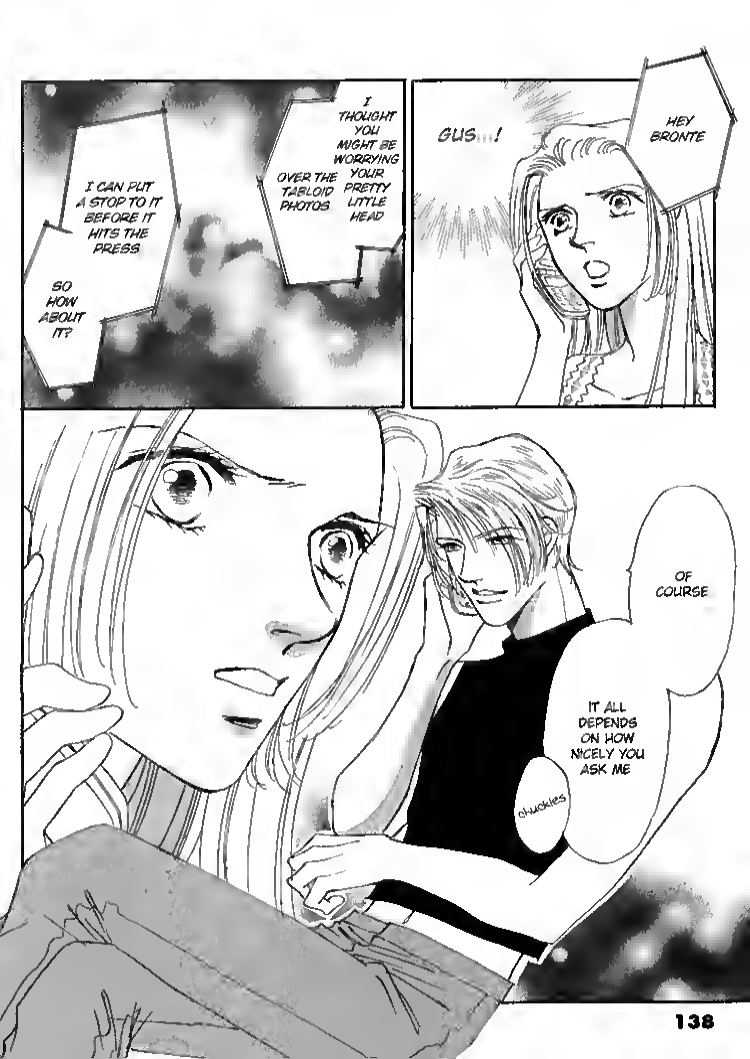


YOU NEED TO GET YOUR REST!
I'LL MAKE THE BED—


YOUR EYES ARE RED. DID YOU WORK ALL NIGHT?
YOU COULD SAY THAT

MARS...
I CAN REST MUCH BETTER IF I'M LIKE THIS.
HE'S GIVING IT HIS ALL, DOING AN ALL-NIGHTER SO THAT HE CAN MAKE THE HOTEL HIS
EVEN THEN, HE STILL MAKES TIME TO COME VISIT ME EVERY NIGHT

JUST BEING TOGETHER WITH YOU LIKE THIS
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO MUCH
REMEMBER, I'M HAPPY
BUT THIS'LL ONLY PUT MORE PRESSURE ON HIM
HE SAID HE DIDN'T MIND
HOW CAN I SETTLE THIS PROBLEM?
beep beep


HEY BRONTE
GUS...!
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE WORRYING YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD OVER THE TABLOID PHOTOS
I CAN PUT A STOP TO IT BEFORE IT HITS THE PRESS
SO HOW ABOUT IT?
OF COURSE
IT ALL DEPENDS ON HOW NICELY YOU ASK ME
chuckles

GUS
I DON'T LIKE THE TONE OF HIS VOICE
BUT STILL
IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A NORMAL "PLEASE" WILL DO
OKAY, FINE THEN

HUH,
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU PREPARED YOURSELF FOR WHAT MIGHT COME.

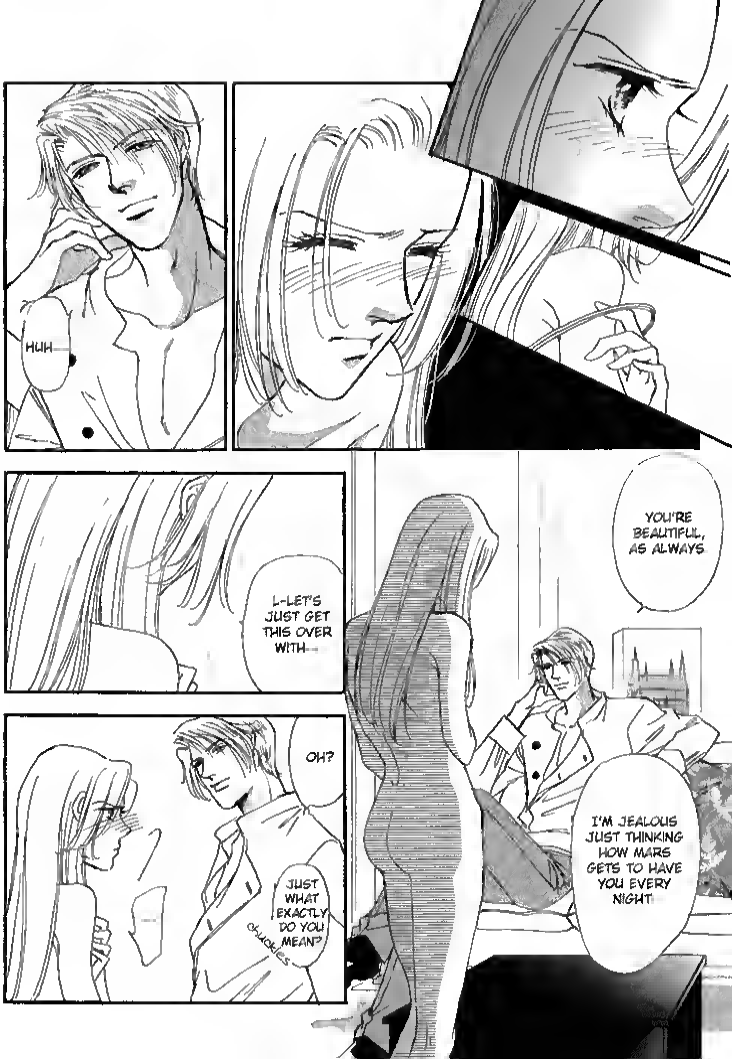
—HEY,
GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT.

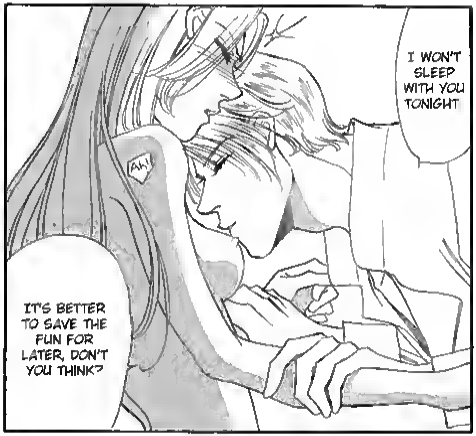
squeeze
I KNEW IT.

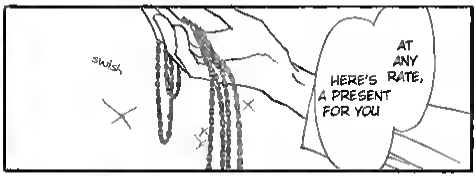
WELL THEN,
TAKE IT OFF.

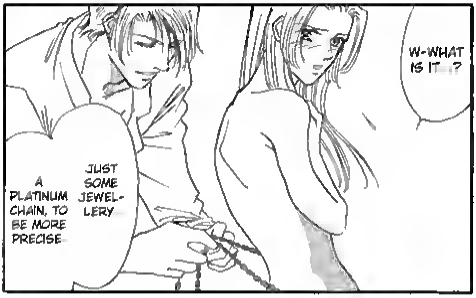
W-WHAT SHOULD I DO—?
YOU WANT TO BEGIN SO SOON? WELL, AREN'T WE THE HASTY ONES.

I-I CAN'T TURN BACK THOUGH... I'VE ALREADY DECIDED TO DO THIS...
rustle
HEY NOW, ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU TWO DO IT WHILE YOU'RE DRESSED LIKE THAT?

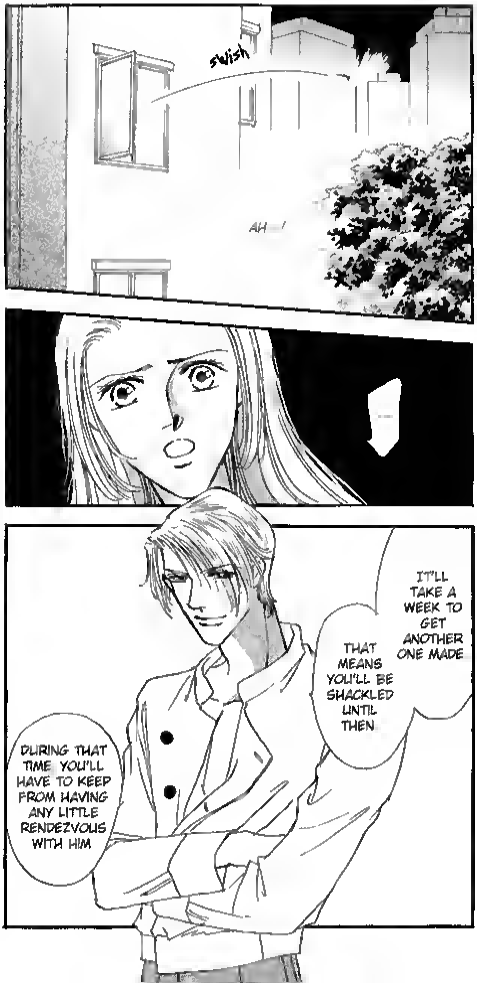

HUH
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, AS ALWAYS
I'M JEALOUS JUST THINKING HOW MARS GETS TO HAVE YOU EVERY NIGHT!
L-LET'S JUST GET THIS OVER WITH—
OH?
JUST WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU MEAN?
CHUCKLES


I WON'T SLEEP WITH YOU TONIGHT
Ah!
IT'S BETTER TO SAVE THE FUN FOR LATER, DON'T YOU THINK?


AT ANY RATE, HERE'S A PRESENT FOR YOU
Swish


W-WHAT IS IT...?
JUST SOME JEWEL-LERY
A PLATINUM CHAIN, TO BE MORE PRECISE

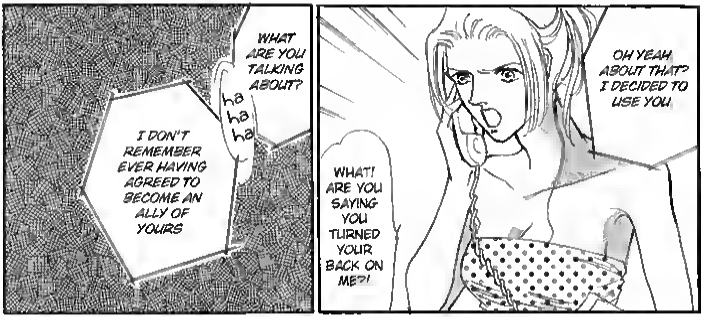
click
—A CHAIN TO KEEP YOU BOUND TO ME THAT IS
"BOUND"?
THIS IS A SPECIAL CHAIN,
IT'LL ONLY COME UNLOCKED USING THIS KEY.
SWISH
CLICK

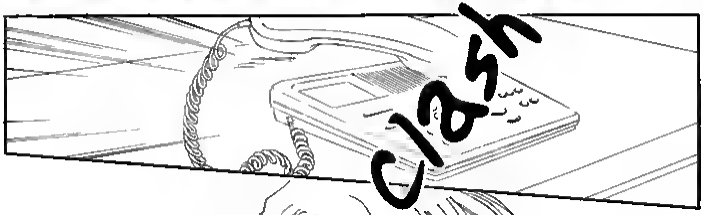

swish
AH...!
IT'LL TAKE A WEEK TO GET ANOTHER ONE MADE
THAT MEANS YOU'LL BE SHACKLED UNTIL THEN
DURING THAT TIME, YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP FROM HAVING ANY LITTLE RENDEZVOUS WITH HIM

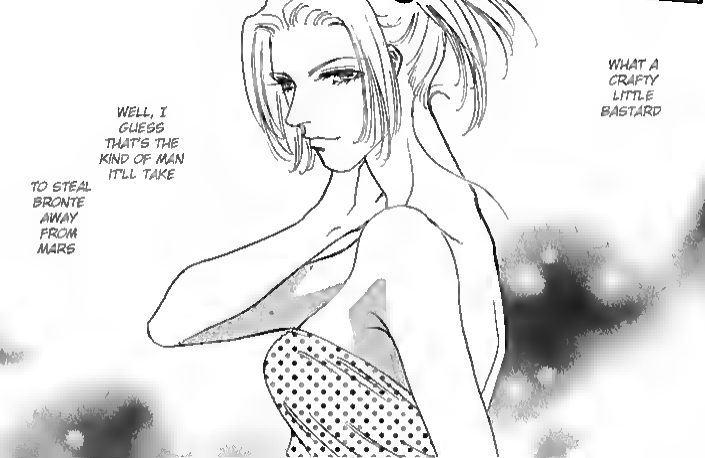
—OR
MAYBE NOT...
Slide
—GENTLY.
AS IF IT WERE MY VERY FINGERS.
WHENEVER HE MAKES LOVE TO YOU, THOUGH,
THIS CHAIN WILL CARESS YOU

BRONTE-
IF YOU TRY TO REMOVE IT ON YOUR OWN, I WON'T STOP THE PHOTOS FROM BEING PRINTED
THE PHOTOS HAVE BEEN STOPPED BEFORE THEY HIT THE PRESS
DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT?
I LOOK FORWARD TO COMING TO REMOVE THIS FROM YOU A WEEK FROM NOW

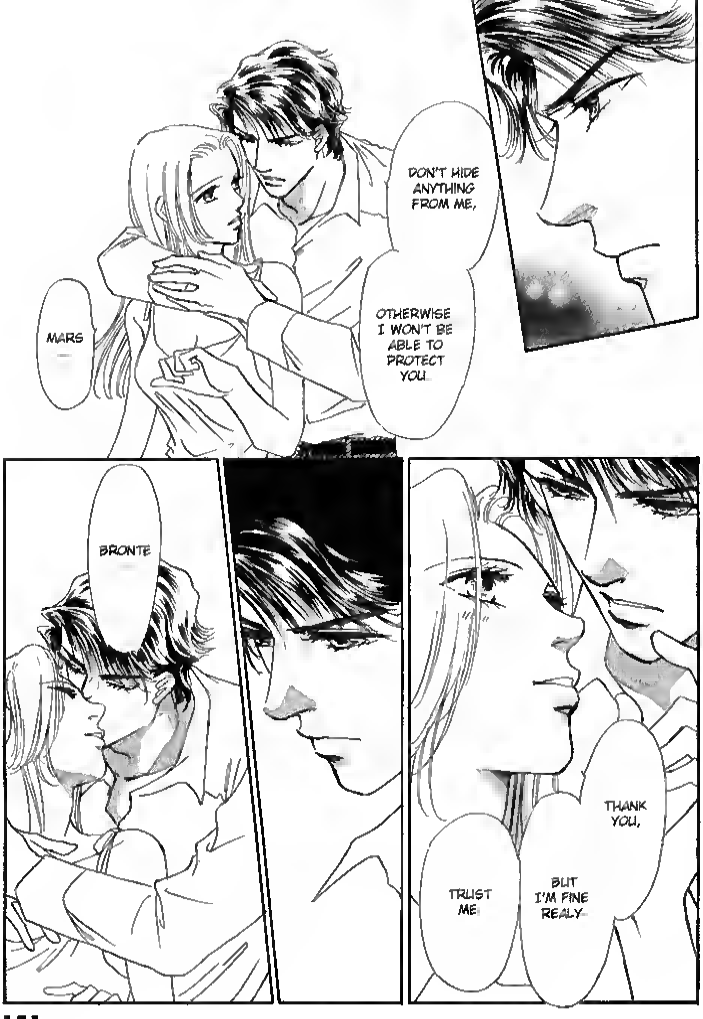
I AM THOUGH
YOU DO HAVE A RECKLESS SIDE TO YOU
I-IT WAS NOTHING REALLY!
THERE'S NOTHING FOR US TO WORRY ABOUT ANYMORE
...THAT MAKES ME WORRIED
VROOM
THUD
THOSE PHOTOS HAVEN'T BEEN PUBLISHED YET, GUS.


WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
ha ha ha
I DON'T REMEMBER EVER HAVING AGREED TO BECOME AN ALLY OF YOURS
OH YEAH, ABOUT THAT? I DECIDED TO USE YOU.
WHAT! ARE YOU SAYING YOU TURNED YOUR BACK ON ME?!


Clash

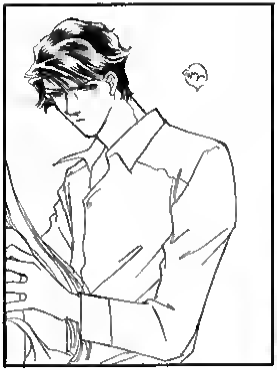

WHAT A CRAFTY LITTLE BASTARD
WELL, I GUESS THAT'S THE KIND OF MAN IT'LL TAKE
TO STEAL BRONTE AWAY FROM MARS

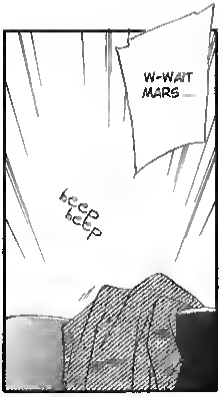
HOW DID THE DEAL WITH THOSE PHOTOS GO?
O-OH, ABOUT THAT?
G-GRAY SETTLED IT FOR US
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
MARS
NOTHING, NOTHING AT ALL
I'M FINE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME. YOU SHOULD JUST CONCENTRATE ON YOUR WORK.


MARS
OTHERWISE I WON'T BE ABLE TO PROTECT YOU.
DON'T HIDE ANYTHING FROM ME,
BRONTE
TRUST ME
BUT I'M FINE REALY
THANK YOU,

BLINKS
AH
NO!

This is mars?


hm


W-WAIT MARS...
beep beep

I-I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M LETTING GUS' WORDS GET TO ME
THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME TO FEEL THIS WAY...

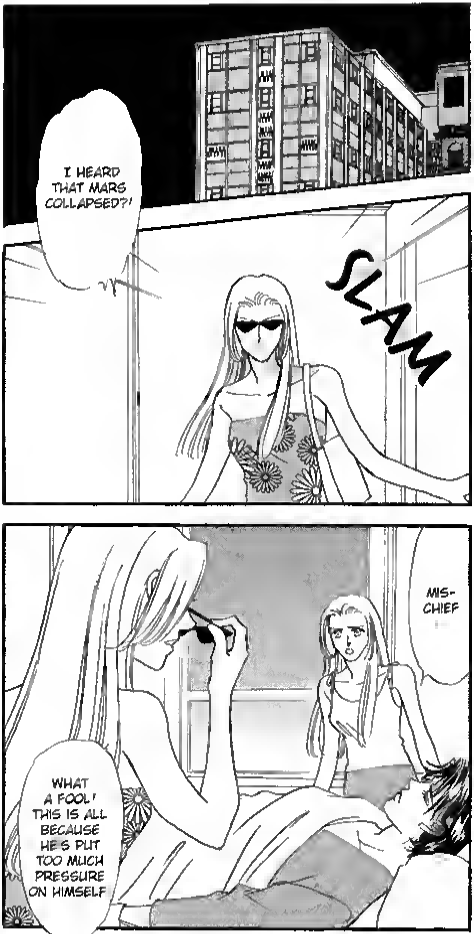
BUT...
I CAN'T BRUSH OFF THIS FEELING THAT SOMEONE'S WATCHING US...

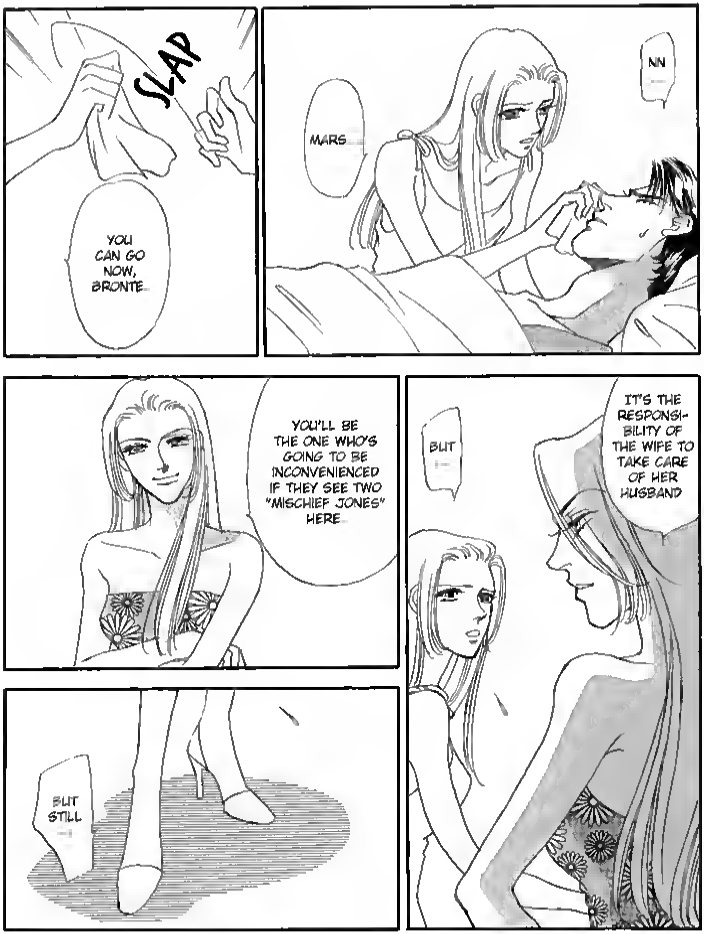
THUD
WHAT...?

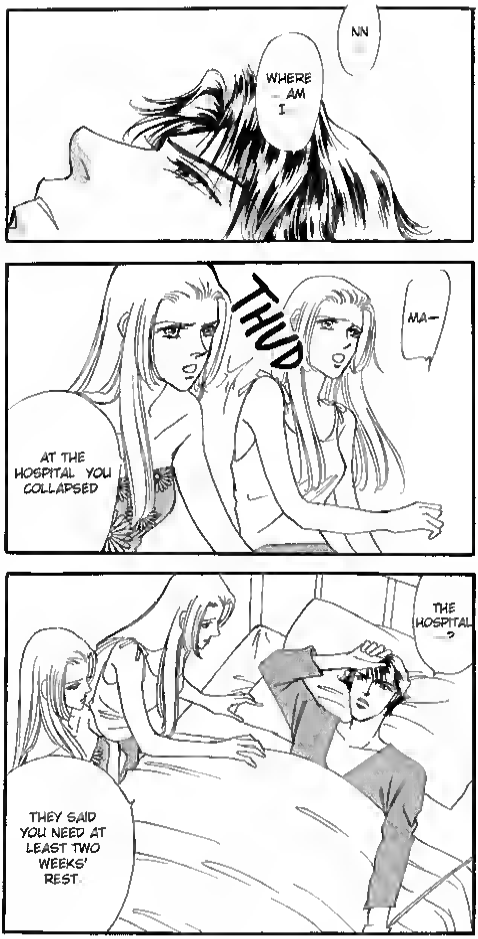
MARS!
MARS!

IT'S DUE TO OVEREXERTION,
IT APPEARS THAT HE'S BEEN UNDER QUITE A LOT OF STRESS LATELY.
I'M SORRY
My
See? I told you! She's that model—
WHY DIDN'T YOU NOTICE THIS EARLIER?
OVEREXERTION CAN EASILY LEAD TO DEATH

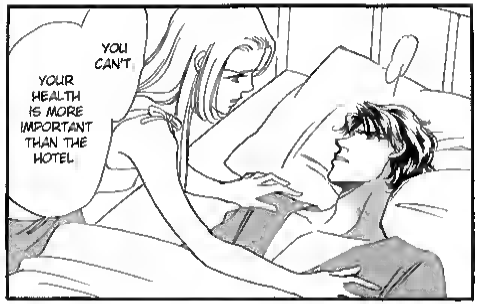
THIS IS MY FAULT.
I'M SORRY, MARS.
THIS ALL HAPPENED BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU WANTED US TO MARRY
YOU'VE PUT YOURSELF UNDER TOO MUCH STRESS


I HEARD THAT MARS COLLAPSED?!
SLAM
MIS-CHIEF
WHAT A FOOL! THIS IS ALL BECAUSE HE'S PUT TOO MUCH PRESSURE ON HIMSELF

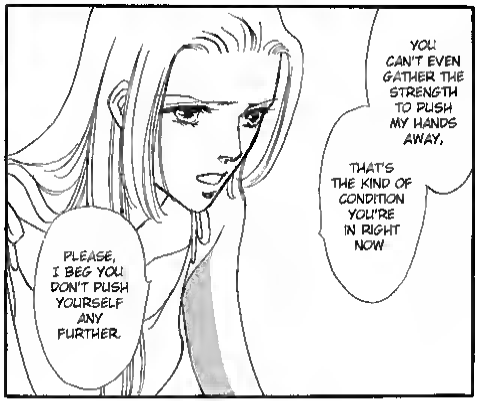

SLAP
YOU CAN GO NOW, BRONTE...
MARS...
NN
IT'S THE RESPONSI-BILITY OF THE WIFE TO TAKE CARE OF HER HUSBAND
BUT...
YOU'LL BE THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO BE INCONVENIENCED IF THEY SEE TWO "MISCHIEF JONES" HERE...
BUT STILL...

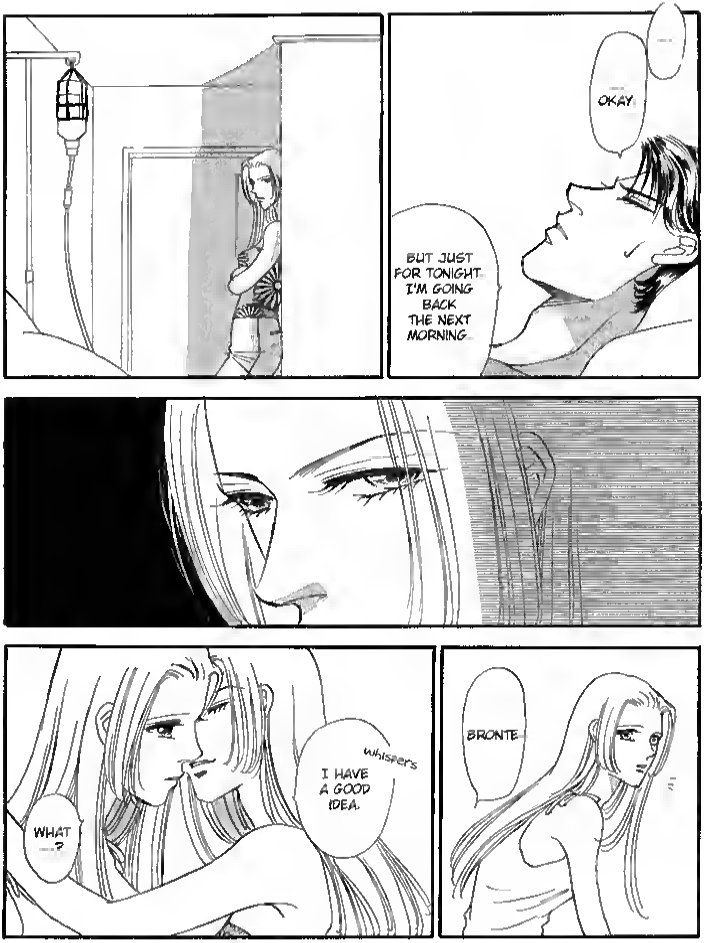

NN
WHERE AM I
THUD
MA—
AT THE HOSPITAL YOU COLLAPSED
THE HOSPITAL—?
THEY SAID YOU NEED AT LEAST TWO WEEKS' REST.

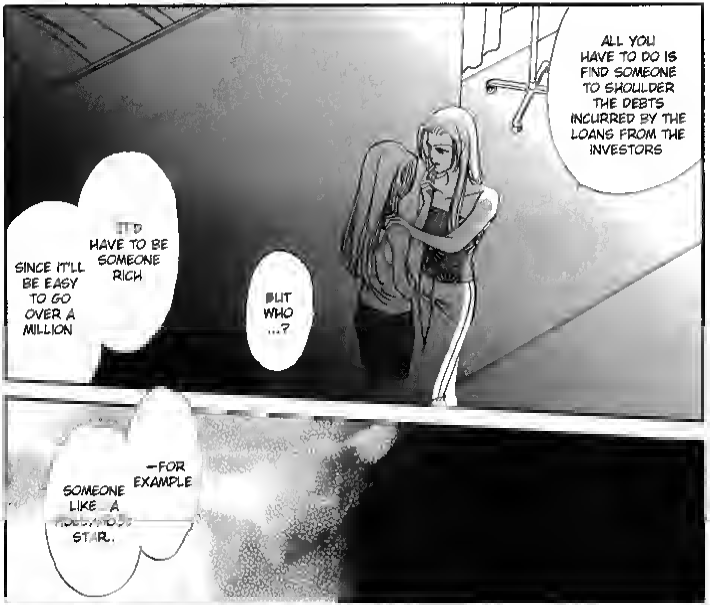
MARS!
gets up
TWO WEEKS?!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE DOING THAT!
YOU CAN'T. YOU HAVE TO STAY RESTED
MARS
IF I STAY HERE FOR TWO WEEKS, THE INVESTORS ARE GOING TO BACK OUT,
IF THAT HAPPENS, THE HOTEL'S DONE WITH!

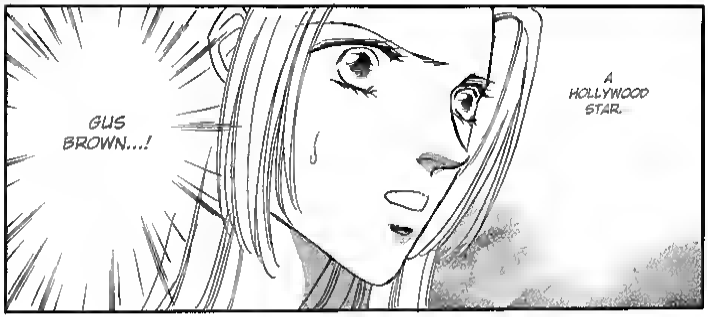

YOU CAN'T
YOUR HEALTH IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE HOTEL

—LET ME GO

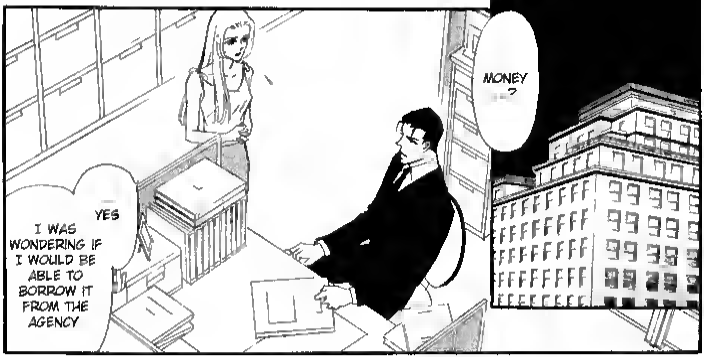

YOU CAN'T EVEN GATHER THE STRENGTH TO PUSH MY HANDS AWAY.
THAT'S THE KIND OF CONDITION YOU'RE IN RIGHT NOW
PLEASE, I BEG YOU! DON'T PUSH YOURSELF ANY FURTHER.

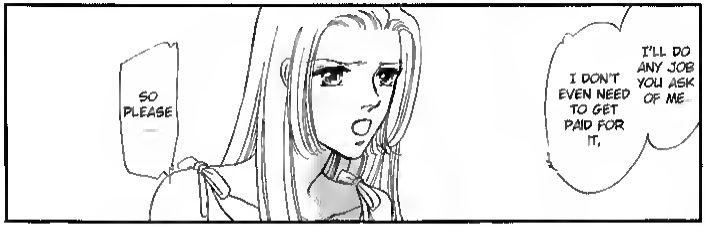

OKAY.
BUT JUST FOR TONIGHT. I'M GOING BACK THE NEXT MORNING.
BRONTE
whispers
I HAVE A GOOD IDEA.
WHAT—?

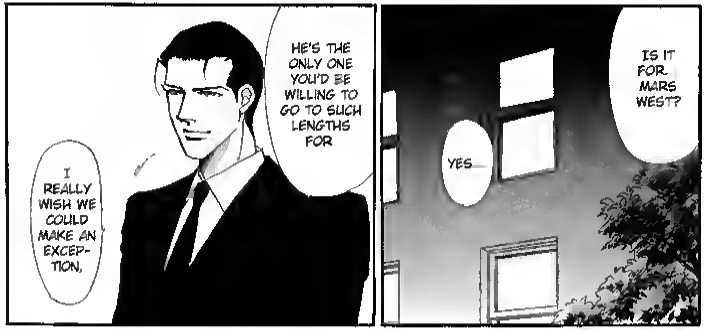

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FIND SOMEONE TO SHOULDER THE DEBTS INCURRED BY THE LOANS FROM THE INVESTORS
BUT WHO ...?
IT'D HAVE TO BE SOMEONE RICH
SINCE IT'LL BE EASY TO GO OVER A MILLION
—FOR EXAMPLE
SOMEONE LIKE... A HOLLYWOOD STAR.


A HOLLYWOOD STAR.
GUS BROWN...!

—A CHAIN THAT'LL KEEP YOU BOUND TO ME, THAT IS.
GUS
IF YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT HE MIGHT ASK OF YOU NEXT
YOU CAN'T
BUT WHERE ELSE WOULD I BE ABLE TO BORROW OVER A MILLION DOLLARS ?


MONEY...?
YES...
I WAS WONDERING IF I WOULD BE ABLE TO BORROW IT FROM THE AGENCY


I'LL DO ANY JOB YOU ASK OF ME...
I DON'T EVEN NEED TO GET PAID FOR IT,
SO PLEASE

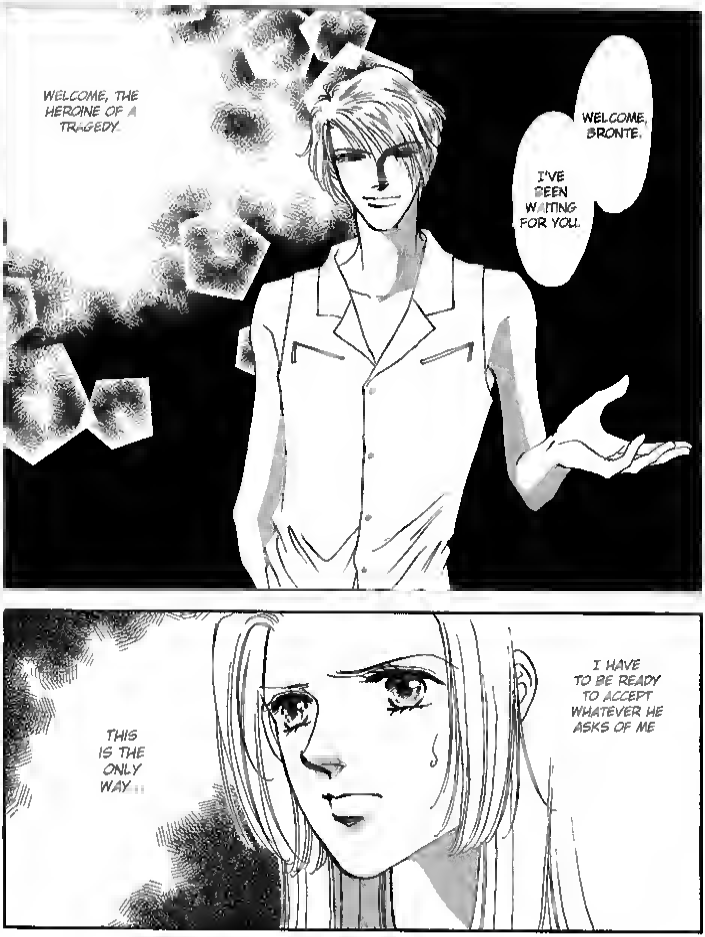

IS IT FOR MARS WEST?
YES...
HE'S THE ONLY ONE YOU'D BE WILLING TO GO TO SUCH LENGTHS FOR
I REALLY WISH WE COULD MAKE AN EXCEP-TION,

—I SHOULDN'T HAVE EXPECTED TO GET IT SO EASILY. THIS IS A HUGE SUM WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HERE.
BUT UNFORTUNATELY, WE'RE NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE SUCH A LARGE SUM.
THEN WHAT DO YOU SAY I SHOULD DO?
HE'S HOSPITALIZED DUE TO OVEREXERTION?
HUH, NOW THAT'S INTERESTING.

IT'S THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME, MR. HOLLYWOOD STAR.
YOU STABBED ME IN THE BACK WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT.
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING WHAT KIND OF VILLAIN YOU'LL PLAY.
click
HAHAHA...
MANAGER? IT'S ME
I'D LIKE YOU TO GET SOMETHING READY FOR ME, AND PRONTO.
click
click
...

THE SUN'S RISING
...BUT WHAT CAN I DO...?
I'M SURE HE'LL MAKE THEM DISCHARGE HIM.
BEFORE THAT HAPPENS, I HAVE TO SETTLE THIS.

click


WELCOME, THE HEROINE OF A TRAGEDY.
WELCOME, BRONTE.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
I HAVE TO BE READY TO ACCEPT WHATEVER HE ASKS OF ME
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY...

JShoujo Scans presents

Gold

Translator Oceansportrait

Proofreader Anya

Cleaner Lula

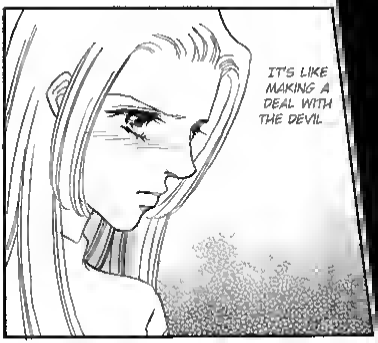
Typesetter Cassy

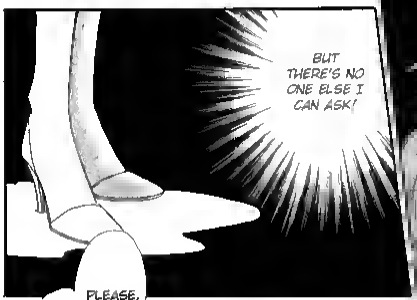
QCer Oceansportrait

Chapter 33

Volume 5

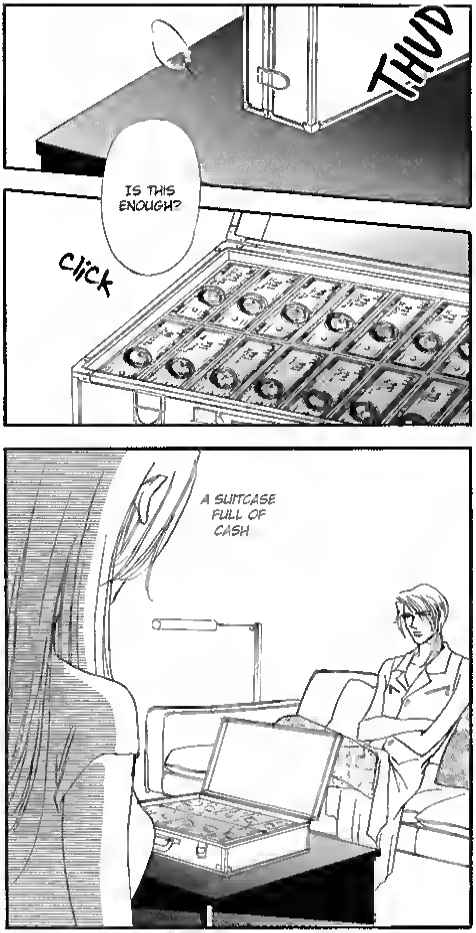
I HEARD THAT MARS COLLAPSED
HE MUST'VE BEEN WORKING MIGHTY HARD FOR THAT TO HAPPEN
GUS—
EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE HALF-BROTHERS, HE HATES MARS..
HE THINKS THAT IF HE CAN HAVE ME,
MARS WILL BE HURT BECAUSE OF IT
EVEN THIS CHAIN


IT'S LIKE MAKING A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL

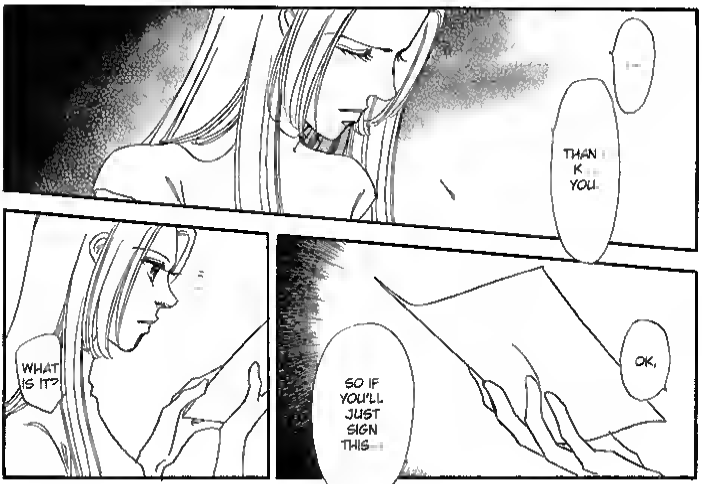

BUT THERE'S NO ONE ELSE I CAN ASK!

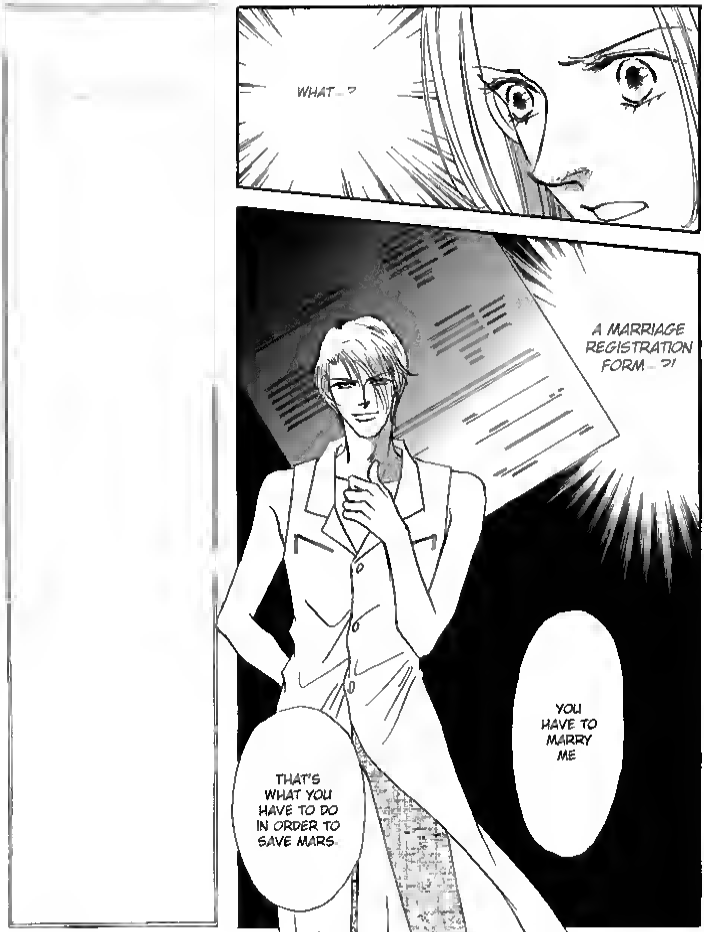
PLEASE,
HELP MARG

"WHENEVER HE MAKES LOVE TO YOU, I'LL BE C RESSING YOU T THE SAME TIME."

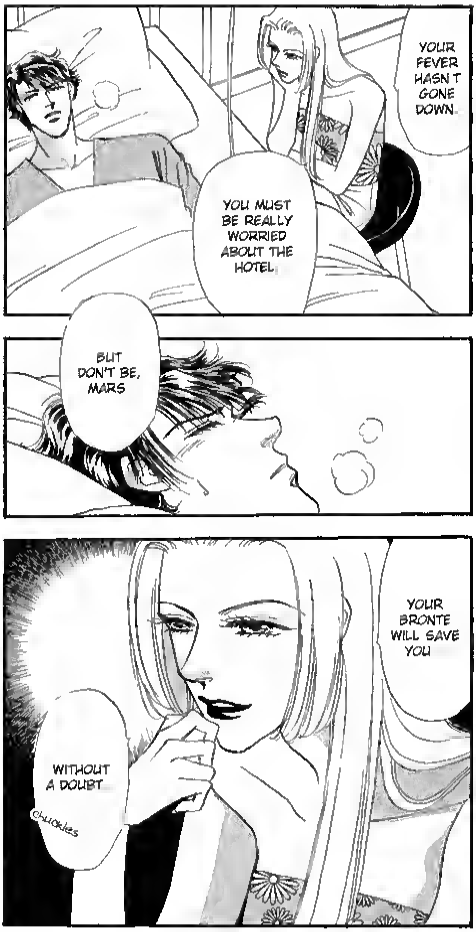

THUD
IS THIS ENOUGH?
CLICK
A SUITCASE FULL OF CASH

BUT HE WENT THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF RUBBING IT IN MY FACE HOW HE CAN PREPARE SUCH A LARGE SUM ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE...
WHAT A DIRTY HANDED WAY TO DO THIS
ALL HE WOULD'VE HAD TO DO WAS SHOW A CHECK...
IT WAS ON SHORT NOTICE, SO THIS WAS ALL I COULD PREPARE FOR TODAY.
THE REST, I'LL GIVE TO YOU TONIGHT.


THANK YOU.
WHAT IS IT?
SO IF YOU'LL JUST SIGN THIS...
OK.


WHAT—?
A MARRIAGE REGISTRATION FORM—?!
YOU HAVE TO MARRY ME
THAT'S WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO IN ORDER TO SAVE MARS.

CLANK
CLANK
MARRY HIM?!
IS HE OUT OF HIS MIND?!
THERE'S NO WAY I WOULD SIGN SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
SLAM
I WAS WRONG TO EVER THINK OF ASKING HIM!


YOUR FEVER HASN'T GONE DOWN.
YOU MUST BE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT THE HOTEL.
BUT DON'T BE, MARS
YOUR BRONTE WILL SAVE YOU
WITHOUT A DOUBT
Chuckles

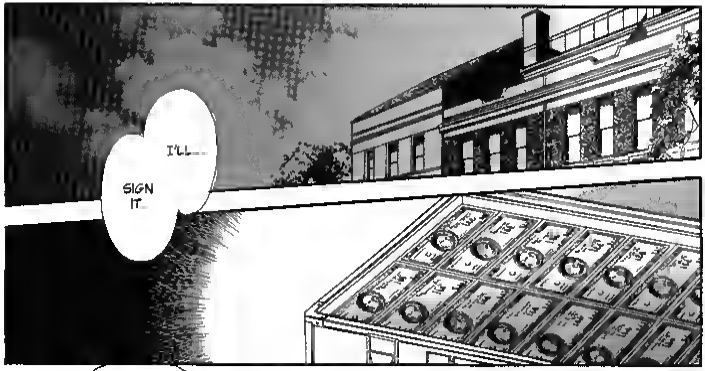
THE PAINTING OF
SIGH
HONK
HONK
"I NAMED MYSELF —"
"WHEN I SAW THIS PAINTING FOR THE FIRST TIME WHEN I WAS 10"
"I HAVE NO PARENTS."
THE WARRIOR MARS

AH...
THE PAINTING OF
THE WARRIOR MARS
"I HAVE NO PARENTS"
"I NAMED MYSELF—"
"WHEN I SAW THIS PAINTING FOR THE FIRST TIME WHEN I WAS 10"

"THE GOD OF WAR— MARS"
HE LIVED SUCH A HARD LIFE THAT HE EVEN THREW AWAY HIS NAME...
IN ORDER FOR HIM TO BE ABLE TO BATTLE...
WHEN I FIRST REALIZED THAT IT WAS AS IF I'D LOST MYSELF.
AND I WAS A MESS... I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
AS FOR ME, I'M SOMEONE WITHOUT A FACE
THIS IS SOMEONE ELSE'S FACE I CAN'T GO BACK TO THE WAY I WAS BEFORE

MARS,
WHAT YOU BELIEVED IN AFTER THROWING AWAY YOUR NAME
WAS THE POWER AND STRENGTH NEEDED TO BATTLE
"I HAVE NO NEED FOR LOVE."
BUT MARS...
IT WAS BECAUSE I MET YOU IT WAS BECAUSE I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU
THAT I WAS ABLE TO HAVE FAITH IN MYSELF AGAIN

I HAVE TO PROTECT MARS' HOTEL!
—AND THE LIFE INVESTED IN THIS HOTEL
I HAVE TO PROTECT IT...


I'LL... SIGN IT...

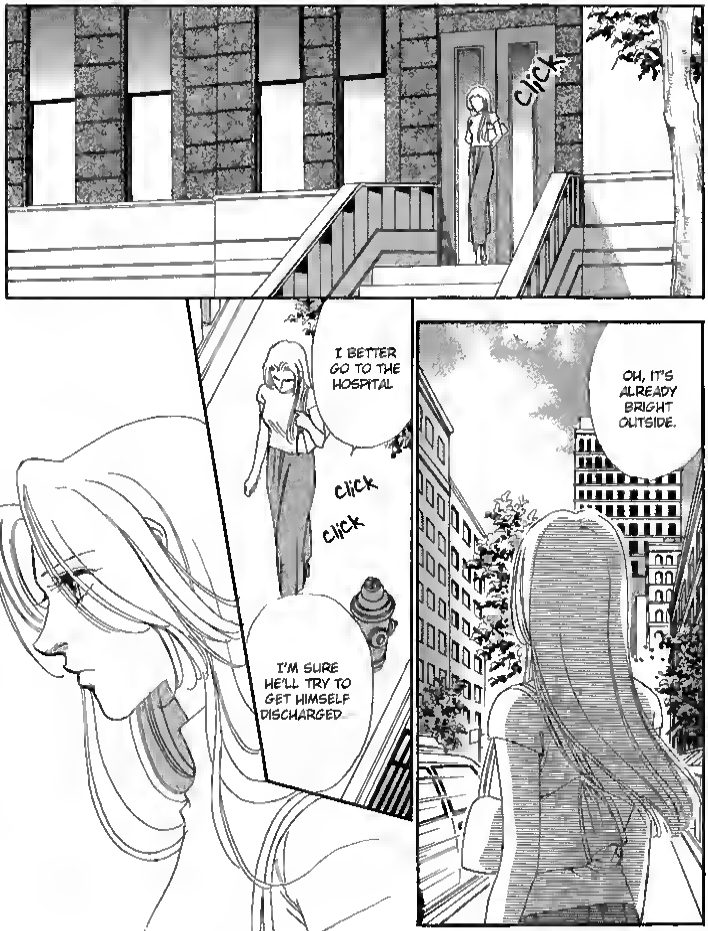
THIS IS MY DECISION...

SO YOU'VE FINALLY RESIGNED YOURSELF TO YOUR FATE, HUH?
HUH,
NO,

AND—
THIS CHAIN
CAN YOU TAKE IT OFF ME?
BUT I HAVE SOME CONDITIONS YOU HAVE TO AGREE TO AS WELL.
DON'T MAKE IT PUBLIC THAT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO PROVIDED THE MONEY.
NO PROBLEM.
WELL THAT'S NO FUN. YOU WERE SO SEXY WITH IT ON
CHCK
sigh of relief
—WELL THEN,
BEFORE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND—

grips
OK...!

KISS ME.
OUT OF YOUR OWN WILL.
PULLS
I WON'T REGRET THIS... THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.

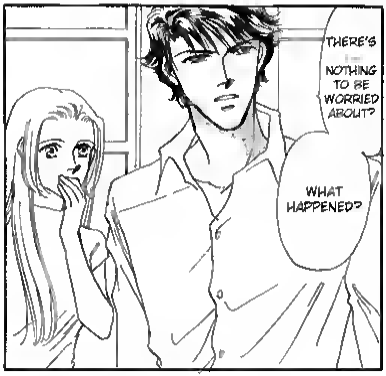

click
OH, IT'S ALREADY BRIGHT OUTSIDE.
I BETTER GO TO THE HOSPITAL
click
click
I'M SURE HE'LL TRY TO GET HIMSELF DISCHARGED

MARRIAGE
"TAKE THIS"
"I HAVE NO NEED FOR LOVE"
"WHAT I WANT "

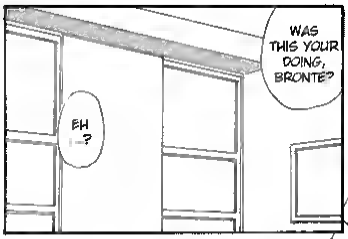
"EVERY-THING S GOING TO BE OKAY"
MARS...
"I LOVE YOU"

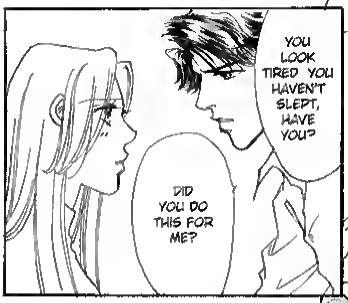
rustle
I KEPT THE PROMISE TO STAY OVERNIGHT. I'VE HAD ENOUGH REST!
I'M GOING BACK TO WORK.
I KNEW IT!
MARS!

YOU CAN'T YOU LOOK TERRIBLE!
ABOUT THE HOTEL—
EVERY-THING'S GOING TO BE OKAY.
EVERY-THING'S GOING TO BE OKAY?
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
SUB-OWNER!
KNOCK KNOCK
WELL THAT'S BE-CAUSE
UM—

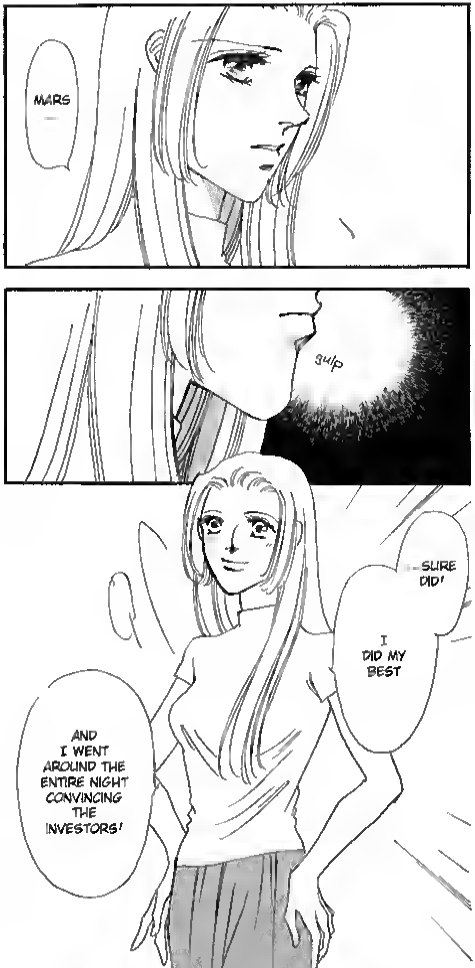

THERE'S NOTHING TO BE WORRIED ABOUT?
WHAT HAPPENED?

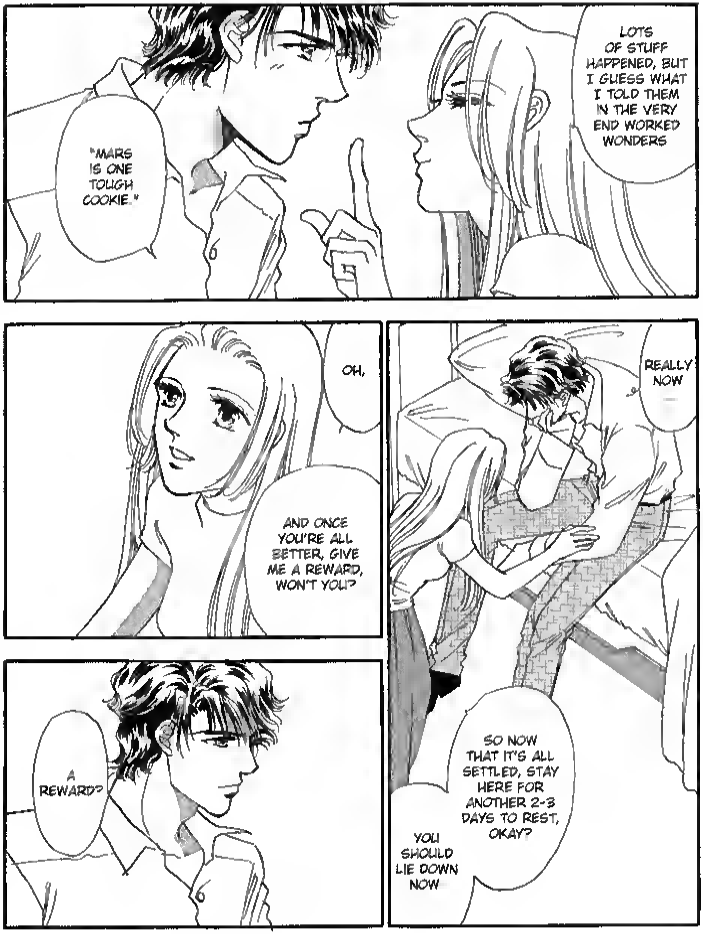
I JUST GOT A CALL FROM THE INVESTORS,
THEY TOLD ME TO TELL YOU THAT THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT

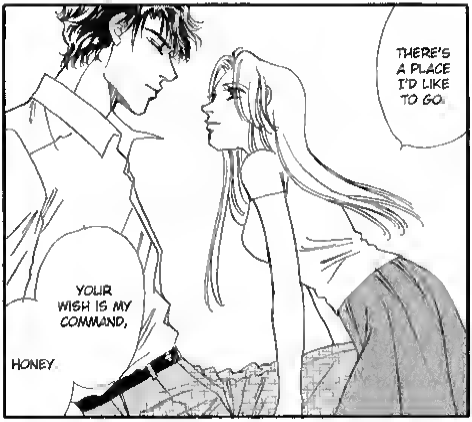

WAS THIS YOUR DOING, BRONTE?
EH...?

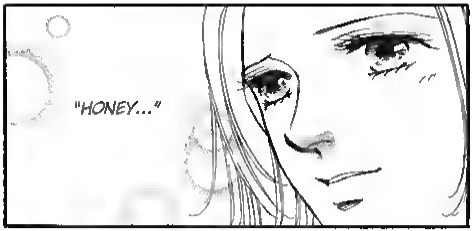

YOU LOOK TIRED YOU HAVEN'T SLEPT, HAVE YOU?
DID YOU DO THIS FOR ME?

THAT MUST BE GUS... SO HE'S ALREADY SETTLED EVERYTHING


MARS
gulp
SURE DID!
I DID MY BEST
AND I WENT AROUND THE ENTIRE NIGHT CONVINCING THE INVESTORS!


LOTS OF STUFF HAPPENED, BUT I GUESS WHAT I TOLD THEM IN THE VERY END WORKED WONDERS
"MARS IS ONE TOUGH COOKIE."
REALLY NOW
OH,
AND ONCE YOU'RE ALL BETTER, GIVE ME A REWARD, WON'T YOU?
SO NOW THAT IT'S ALL SETTLED, STAY HERE FOR ANOTHER 2-3 DAYS TO REST, OKAY?
YOU SHOULD LIE DOWN NOW
A REWARD?

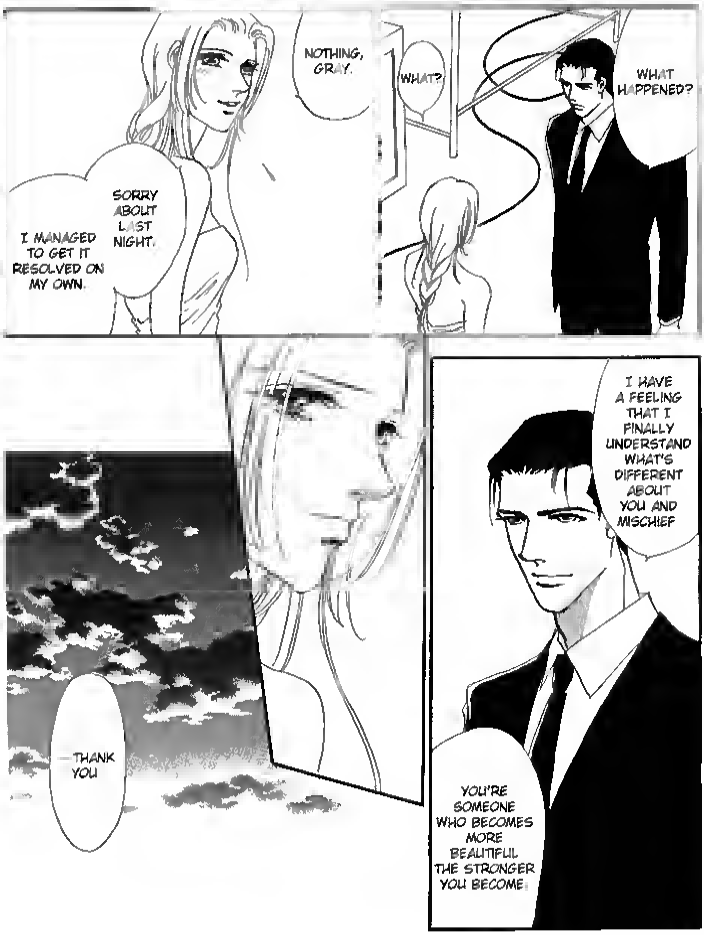

THERE'S A PLACE I'D LIKE TO GO.
YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND, HONEY.


"HONEY..."

OH NO, I'M GOING TO BE LATE FOR WORK!
NOW, YOU STAY RESTED, OKAY, DARLING?

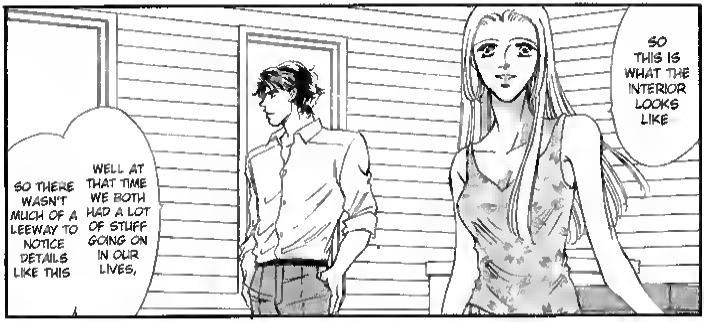
BRONTE PLEADED WITH THEM...?
BUT THEY'RE NOT THE TYPE TO JUST GIVE IN EASILY LIKE THAT
ED
YES?
COULD YOU LOOK SOMETHING UP FOR ME?

CLICK
HOW BEAUTIFUL
Ohhh
SHE ALWAYS IS, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT HER TODAY--

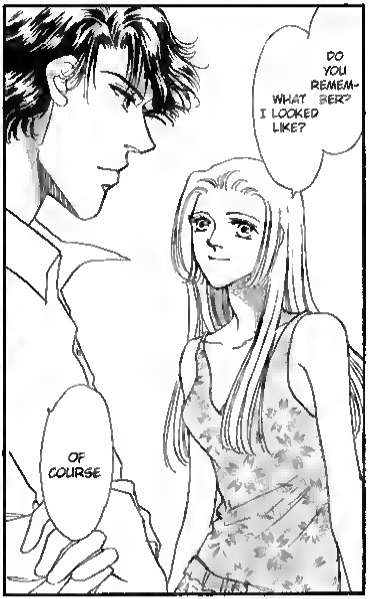

NOTHING, GRAY.
SORRY ABOUT LAST NIGHT.
I MANAGED TO GET IT RESOLVED ON MY OWN.
WHAT?
WHAT HAPPENED?
I HAVE A FEELING THAT I FINALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU AND MISCHIEF
YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO BECOMES MORE BEAUTIFUL THE STRONGER YOU BECOME.
—THANK YOU

vroom
rustle
IS THIS WHERE YOU WANTED TO COME?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER WHERE THIS IS?
WELL, I AM A "TOUGH COOKIE," AFTER ALL
YOU LOOK SO MUCH BETTER, I'M SO GLAD!

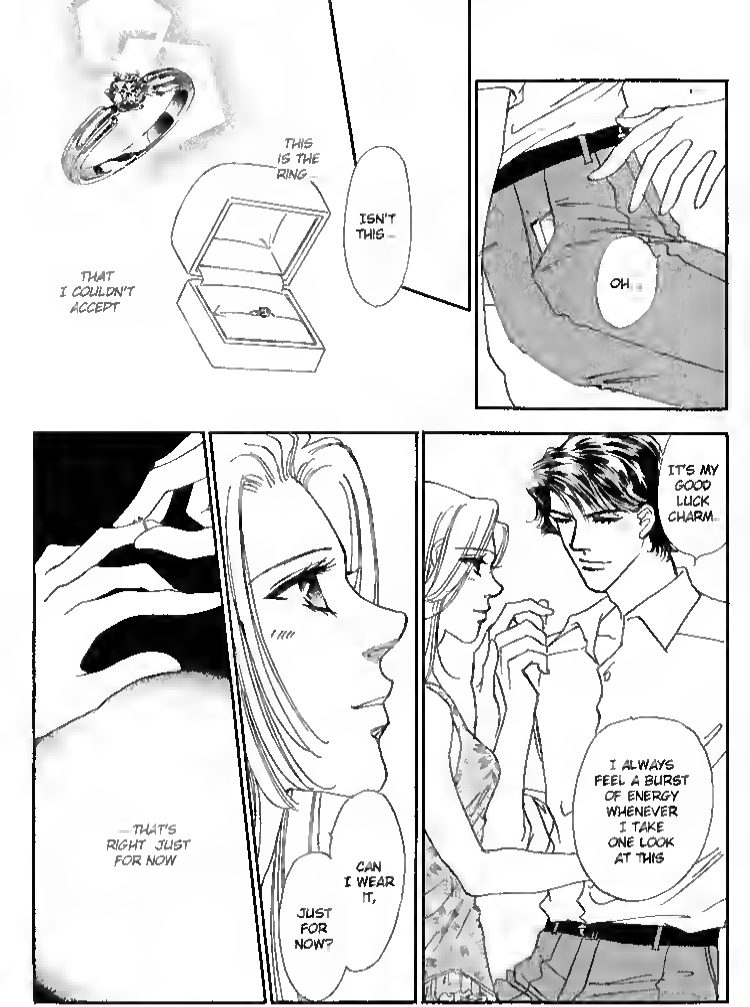
OH,
WE CAN SEE IT FROM HERE
OF COURSE.
I REMEMBER HOW COULD I FORGET?
THAT'S WHERE I FIRST MET YOU
CRACKLE


SO THIS IS WHAT THE INTERIOR LOOKS LIKE
WELL AT THAT TIME WE BOTH HAD A LOT OF STUFF GOING ON IN OUR LIVES,
SO THERE WASN'T MUCH OF A LEEWAY TO NOTICE DETAILS LIKE THIS

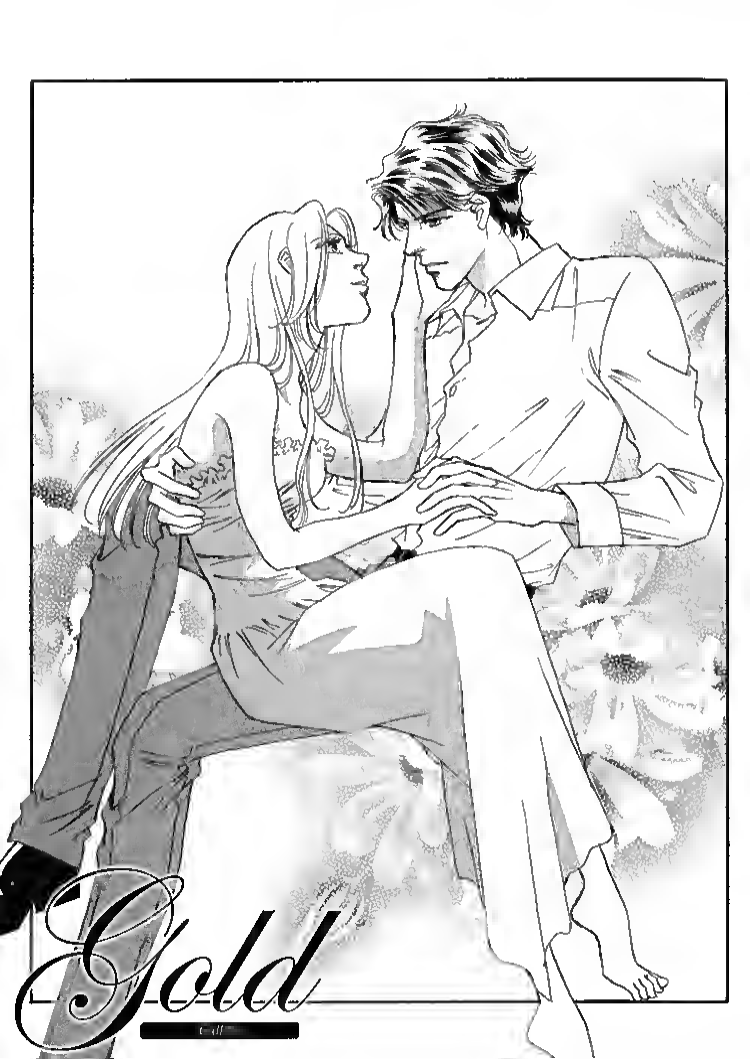
EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T GO BACK TO WHAT I LOOKED LIKE ON THAT DAY,
THIS WAS WHERE EVERYTHING BEGAN
THAT'S WHY—

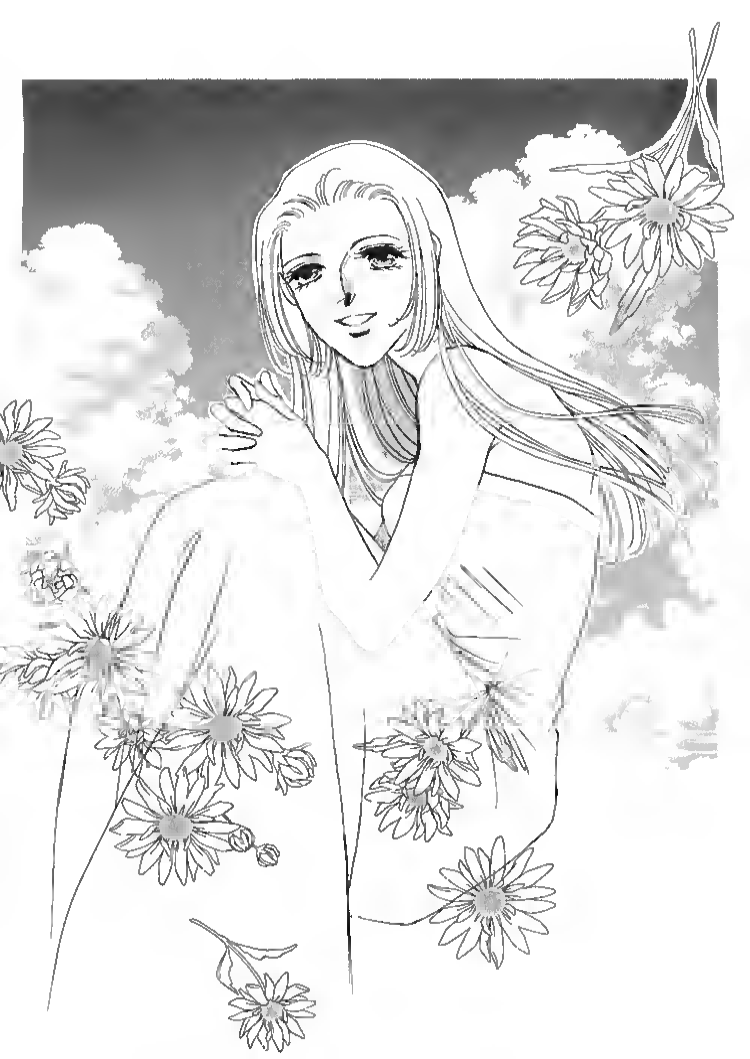

DO YOU REMEMBER? WHAT I LOOKED LIKE?
OF COURSE

I WANT TO MAKE LOVE TO YOU HERE
THIS WILL BE THE LAST DAY I CAN TELL YOU THAT I LOVE YOU.
AT THIS VERY PLACE WHERE WE FIRST MET.
...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
NOTHING NOTHING AT ALL
DO WE NEED A REASON TO MAKE LOVE?


THAT I COULDN'T ACCEPT
THIS IS THE RING...
ISN'T THIS...
OH...
IT'S MY GOOD LUCK CHARM...
I ALWAYS FEEL A BURST OF ENERGY WHENEVER I TAKE ONE LOOK AT THIS
CAN I WEAR IT, JUST FOR NOW?
...THAT'S RIGHT JUST FOR NOW

A MARRIAGE
JUST FOR
TONIGHT...


Gold



ゴールド⑤

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